



ON THE RUN

Blind Dave joins 10k race for charity



PAGE 15

NIGHT OUT

Black Country food and fun at museum



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Yobs are made to meet their victims

YOBS who vandalised cars in Stourbridge have been made to meet their victims by police as part of a rehabilitation project.

Two boys, aged 13 and 12, and a 15-year-old girl were also made to hand over a total of £776 to pay for repairs, as part of a 'restorative justice' scheme.

Pc Reg Steele and Pc Vivek Rai organised the meeting at Halesowen police station after damage was caused to a number of cars in the Lye area.

The first offences dated back to June when a resident in Lye reported their Mercedes and Hyundai cars had been scratched. Investigations revealed the offence had been captured on CCTV, which led to the identification of the two. Both admitted using stones to scratch the cars.

In a separate act, a 15-year-old girl admitted throwing pink paint over a Vauxhall and an Audi on July 22. Police received a tip-off that she had been bragging about it.

Pc Steele said: "The trio all admitted their involvement and as none of them had any previous convictions we approached the owners of the cars to see if they would be happy to deal with the matter out of court."

Tribute to dead sister

THE brother of a 48-year-old woman found dead in a Smethwick street has spoken of his family's heartache.

Police launched a murder investigation following the discovery of Glynis Bensley in Cheshire Road last week.

Her brother Adrian Bensley said: "We cannot believe that anyone would want to cause harm to our lovely sister."

A 14-year-old boy was arrested in connection with her death and been released on bail.

PLAN FOR CARE HOME REJECTED

PROPOSALS for a children's care home on land next to a football and cricket ground have been thrown out over concerns about traffic.

Developers have started building homes on the former War Memorial Club site in Amblecote High Street after they won planning permission last year.

But they resubmitted separate proposals to create a young children's care home on the site, next to the home of Stourbridge Football Club and the town's cricket club.

These plans had previously surfaced twice before but had been withdrawn by the developers.

This application would have used the homes being built and convert them into residential units for children.

Withdrawn

Several councillors on Dudley Council's planning committee raised fears over traffic and the impact on nearby residents. They went against planning officers' advice, who had recommended approval for the scheme on land next to the War Memorial Athletic Ground. The councillors unanimously voted to refuse the scheme.

The application said the building would be an eight-bed residential home for children aged six to 16 with learning difficulties.

The development is in the ward of Councillor Pat Martin, who spoke against the plans on behalf of three Amblecote councillors. She said: "What has happened since they were asked to withdraw their first application because it would be refused because of the huge traffic problems? Has the

By Jon Pritchard

site changed? Has the traffic changed? Have the roads changed? The answer is no. The only thing that has changed are the planners who have now decided that what was dangerous a few months ago is now safe.

"It seems to have been forgotten that children's lives are being played with when they should be in a safe place as possible. I have never seen so many valid objections for a site."

Tommy Wong, who spoke on behalf of applicant Bains Builder Limited, said: "We appreciate everyone's concerns for the children and want to reassure everyone that the homes will be built up to standards."

He said the council's highways officers stated that the children's home would bring just five extra cars a day and also approved plans for nine parking spaces.

Planning committee chairman Councillor Qadar Zada said: "What also concerns me is that this may all have been a care home from the start and this is but a mechanism of getting to the final destination. I am not happy to support an application where I may put children in a position where they don't enjoy their natural environment as they would anywhere else."

Bingo booster for children's charity



Eyes down — fundraisers get ready for the bingo bonanza in aid of Acorns Hospices across the Midlands

IT'LL be 'eyes down' when fundraisers hold a bingo night to generate cash for a children's hospice.

The group are hoping for a full house when they join together for an evening at Mecca Bingo in Oldbury in October in aid of Acorns Children's Hospice.

Claire Groom, aged 37, from King'swinford is a founding member of the fundraising group based in Walsall. Her daughter Isla was born with Edwards Syndrome, a genetic condition that disrupts a baby's normal course of development. She died in December 2012 aged 22 months.

Isla received care at the Walsall hospice and now her mother is appealing for people to show their support for the charity. Claire said: "We know only too well of the wonderful work that Acorns does and that's why I joined and help to set up the fundraising group. "We need people to come along to enjoy a fun night of bingo and to help raise vital funds."

The bingo night is the group's inaugural event which they hope will prove successful and kick-start a fundraising drive. Tickets are now on sale for the event.

Community fundraising manager

Sally Insley said: "This is the first event for the fundraising group so we are hoping lots of people will turn out and support us - and potentially win big prizes."

It takes place at Mecca Bingo on Thursday, October 2, at 6.30pm. Tickets cost £10 including bingo books and are available from Acorns Walsall. For more information or to join the fundraising group or email sally.insley@acorns.org.uk or call 07972 774228.

Acorns offers care and support to children and their families at its hospices in Selly Oak, Walsall and Worcester, and through support at home.

Quakers' meeting house to open doors

A 300-year-old meeting house in Stourbridge town centre will be opened to the public as part of a national heritage showcase.

Stourbridge Quaker meeting house is among the landmarks being showcased in the Heritage Open Day celebrations this weekend.

The house, also known as the Friend's Meeting House, is in Scott's Road, just off Stourbridge Ring Road, and is the oldest building in the town which still retains its original use.

Talk

The Grade II listed building has been restored over the years. It will be opening from 11.15am to 3pm on both Saturday and Sunday.

The house will also host an illustrated talk at 3pm on Sunday by Roseanne Adams of Stourbridge Transition Town Group about The River Stour.

The Stourbridge Quakers are also inviting people to attend a talk on October 3 at 7.30pm regarding the impact of war and conflict on children.

Visit www.heritageopen days.org.uk/directory/quaker-houses-in-stourbridge for more details.

There will also be opportunities to visit Tudor Crystal at Dial Glassworks as part of the national scheme.

Assault on farmer, 70

A 70-year-old farmer suffered a broken arm and nose — and it is feared he may lose an eye — after being attacked by an intruder.

The man heard a noise at Lapal Farm near Halesowen and went out to investigate at 5am on Monday, confronting a man outside the Illey Lane premises.

The farmer was struck over the head several times with his own walking stick. The attacker is described as a stocky white man aged in his early 40s.

website www.wombourne-windows.co.uk

Wombourne Windows

For more information see page 10

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Meeting to air views on bus changes

TRANSPORT bosses have promised to host a public meeting to discuss controversial changes to bus services across Dudley and Sandwell. Bus passengers say they are facing upheaval after changes in a dozen services including routes to and from the Merry Hill shopping centre.

National Express West Midlands has revised services in parts of Dud-

ley and Sandwell. Some passengers claim the changes were not adequately communicated.

Petition

Hundreds of residents in Halesowen, Blackheath, Cradley Heath and Old Hill signed a petition after the axing of the 297 and 205 services left them without a direct route to Russells Hall Hospital.

The meeting, which is being organised by Labour's Parliamentary Candidate for Halesowen and Rowley Regis, Stephanie Peacock, is being held at Our Lady of Lourdes Church on Old Hill High Street at 6pm on Tuesday, September 16.

National Express have confirmed a representative will attend.

Spokesman, Jack Kelly, said: "This meeting will allow us to

discuss how the recent review has affected local resident and explain in person how changing local travel patterns have required us to alter some routes."

"However, it is important to stress that I can make no guarantees on service changes on the day and that many of the changed routes are now much more reliable than prior to the changes."

Victim is taking his first steps in hospital

A YOUNG man who was knocked down in a hit-and-run has been able to take his first steps after the accident, his family have revealed.

Lewis Yale, aged 22, is conscious following the accident in Dudley Road East, Tivdale, near Oldbury, in the early hours of August 31.

He remained in Dudley's Russells Hall Hospital with a close relative saying he will have an operation to treat his facial fractures.

Investigations are continuing into the circumstances of the incident which happened at around midnight. Mr Yale was found seriously injured in a road after being struck by a car, possibly a silver Ford Fiesta, moments after getting off a bus on his way back home from work.

Officers revealed that other motorists drove round him as he lay injured in the street, until an off-duty police officer came to his aid.

A relative, who asked not to be named, said: "He has been able to take a little walk, so he is improving. He has done really well so far but he has still got to have a further operation on his face and nose."

Anyone with information is asked to call the police on 101.

Cricketers in charity boost

TWO teams of cricketers raised money for a charity supporting children in Eastern Europe following a recent friendly match.

Dudley Patels took on a team of fathers from Stourbridge Cricket Club.

The event, which included a barbecue and a raffle, raised £505 for the Kinver and Wolverhampton branch of the Chernobyl Children's Life Line.

The charity brings children living with the health implications of the Chernobyl nuclear disaster that hit Ukraine and Belarus to the UK on four-week holidays.

Health agenda

HEALTH bosses will hold a board meeting this afternoon and are inviting the public to attend.

Board members of Dudley Clinical Commission Group will meet at the Brierley Hill Health and Social Care Centre, in Venture Way, on Thursday from 1pm to 4pm.

A PROLIFIC offender was back behind bars after his ninth conviction for driving while disqualified — despite never having had a driving licence.

Shane O'Rourke, 26, ran a red light at a busy junction in Brierley Hill after he was spotted by plain clothes police behind the wheel of a Vauxhall Zafira on May 28, Wolverhampton Crown Court heard.

Miss Alka Brigue, prosecuting, said: "The officers recognised him as a disqualified driver. He was frantically trying to change gear to get away after realising who they were."

Reversed

The car reversed at speed, swung onto the wrong side of the road and went through the busy junction of Moor Street and High Street, when the traffic lights were on red.

O'Rourke, who had a total of 33 previous convictions, was arrested two days later.

Mr Simon Hanns, defending, said: "He was on his way to sell it when seen by the officers. He has not passed a driving test, never had a legitimate licence and takes a pragmatic approach to the sentence he can expect."

O'Rourke, of Blackacre Road, Dudley, pleaded guilty to dangerous driving, driving while disqualified and having no insurance.

He was jailed for six months with a two year driving ban by Judge Mark Eades who told him: "Here we are again. This has become a routine for you. You go to prison, do your spell of time, come out, get caught driving while disqualified and go to prison again. Hopefully one day you will grow up and think a bit more about the risks of your behaviour to other people."

"You should be ashamed of yourself but I suspect you are not."

VIKINGS will be invading Broadfield House Glass Museum in Kingswinford as part of National Heritage Open Day on Saturday.

The Svartgard Living History Society will be attending the event in full Viking costume and putting on an array of displays including arts and crafts in the garden.

They will be exhibiting various textile crafts as well as an armoury display and arrow making. Also present will be a fur and spice traders, a fisherman, a basket weaver and a metal worker.

Tillerman Beads will be demonstrating glass making at the event, also in full Viking costume, with a wide selection of glass beads for sale. They will be speaking about the art of bead making in times gone by.

People can ask questions and handle the tools and armour or enjoy a game of Hnefatafi, a Viking board game. The group will also be putting on displays of fighting for the crowds.

There will also be a children's craft fair where children can make their own helmets, where a small charge will apply.

The event is from 10am to 4pm and is free.

Hospital volunteer retires



Tony Smith with Gwen Timmins MBE and nurses from the ward at Russells Hall

A HOSPITAL volunteer who has helped raise more than £100,000 for a ward has retired following 13 years of service.

Tony Smith was initially admitted to hospital suffering severe back injuries in an accident at work. After seven years of treatment at the pain relief ward he began fundraising and set up the Support Group for Pain Relief with fellow patient Gwen Timmins. The group ran fundraising stalls at fairs in the region until the ward moved to Russells Hall Hospital in Dudley where

sales are held in the hospital reception. In 13 years it raised a total £107,000.

Last week Mr Smith, aged 66, from Halesowen, had to step down due to increasing chronic pain. The group will continue under the management of Mrs Timmins, aged 71, who was awarded an MBE for her work supporting hospitals. She said: "Tony has done a great job and will be missed." Mr Smith added: "I'm sad to be leaving but the pain has got so bad I'm struggling to make it to the hospital on a regular basis."

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As small as a £10 note when he was born, Harrison now weighs 9 lbs 6 oz and although he is still on oxygen and medication, the amount of both has been reduced.

TWO women were taken to hospital with minor injuries after a car ended up on its roof in an accident at a Dudley junction. Emergency services were called to Castle Gate Island at 9.20pm on Friday.



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THE BEST OF PETER RHODES



A READER asks, rather unkindly, "This ice-bucket challenge thing. Is it just a cheap alternative to a weekend in Wales?"

CAN we take it for granted that William Pooley will get a gong in the next Honours List for risking his life to save the life of others in the Ebola virus epidemic? Or does he have to sing pop songs, row a boat or ride a bike very fast as well?

MEREDYDD Hughes, head of South Yorkshire Police between 2004 and 2011, was damned by one tabloid for concentrating on speeding offences instead of child abusers. So let us turn the clock back to 2004. Tony Blair is prime minister. Charles Clarke is Home Secretary. Harriet Harman is Solicitor-General. And Chief Constable Hughes suddenly declares: "My priority is to stop Pakistani men raping little girls." He would have been sacked so fast you wouldn't have seen him for dust. Cops may share the guilt but the blame for this nightmare goes all the way to Downing Street.

THERE'S just one snag with the new school targets on grammar. The teachers can't teach. Alice Phillips, president of the Girls' Schools Association, says thousands of young teachers have "little or no grounding in English language or grammar." Does that surprise anyone? We are steadily becoming an illiterate nation, blessed with the finest language this planet has ever seen but quite unable to use it.

SO the Czech Republic with a population of just 10 million has proton-beam cancer treatment but the United Kingdom, with six times the population, does not. Two things that we Brits are supposed to cherish have been exposed as rubbish in the Ashya King saga — British justice and the NHS.



AFTER Justin Webb almost made an unfortunate spoonerism on the Today programme (Radio 4) this week, BBC announcers mentioning the Great British Bake-Off should try to avoid describing it as "the hit baking show." Older readers may recall a similar spoonerism many years ago by Billy Cotton in his Bands show, a national institution enjoyed live by a BBC audience of millions. In one sketch set in a Wild West

saloon, Cotton was supposed to introduce a character called the Dead-Shot Kid. It came out as the Dead **** Cod.

MORE from Max Hastings's new book about the outbreak of war in 1914, Catastrophe. Some of the priceless quotes he has unearthed could have come straight out of Blackadder Goes Forth. After one great battle, the commanding officer of the Grenadier Guards wrote to his wife: "The men are splendid and I think their bravery in disregarding danger is largely due to British stupidity."

IF you ever thought Olympic glory was all about fun, consider the words of the England rowing champ Andrew Triggs Hogg who told us this week that the abiding motto of his sport is: "A happy boat is a slow boat." If you start to enjoy it, that's when you lose.

DESPITE spending millions on adverts, the Army Reserve (formerly Territorial Army) signed up only 140 new recruits in the first six months of this year. No surprises there. The TA was traditionally a citizen army, to be mobilised in the event of general war. The Army Reserve is a subs' bench for any madcap adventure ordered by Downing Street. There is a world of difference between joining up to keep the Hun on the other side of the Channel and getting your head chopped off in Iraq for a cause you don't understand by a feral pack of demented jihadists from Cardiff.

Don't miss Peter Rhodes every Monday to Friday in your Express & Star

D-Day heroes claim top French honour

TWENTY-EIGHT veterans of the Normandy landings have come forward to claim France's highest order of merit following an appeal in The Chronicle's sister daily newspaper the Express & Star.

The Légion d'Honneur is being offered to every surviving British veteran of D-Day but they must apply for it. The E&S urged veterans to come forward after the Royal

British Legion in Wolverhampton said only six former city soldiers had so far asked about it. But now, more than quadruple the number, including men from Stafford and Kingswinford, have got in touch with RBL Wolverhampton welfare officer Joy Widdowson, who is helping them make applications.

The Légion d'Honneur is normally only for French citizens but

has been given to people who have done something that has served France or the ideals it upholds. The French Government has said it wants to bestow the award upon any surviving British serviceman who took part in D-Day.

Members of the Order must have their nomination sanctioned by a 17-member panel led by the Grand Master of the Legion, currently

French President François Hollande. It was awarded to 746 members of the British Armed Forces during the Crimean War.

Mrs Widdowson said: "I'm now awaiting replies from the French embassy to see how we go about getting the medals to their recipients. Many of them are 90 or 91 years old now." Contact Mrs Widdowson on 01902 788874.

Revamp of market place facing delays

A MULTI-MILLION-pound revamp of Dudley's historic market place faces delays after hitting 'unforeseen problems'.

Businesses have already voiced concerns over disruption to trade following the start of the works which began back in January and saw traders temporarily moved off the site. Council bosses today admitted there would be disruption to the works but claimed the project will continue.

Works had been taking place in the market place itself on installing new stalls but this will switch to the New Street side of the market after a major snag.

Bosses from Dudley Council had hoped the new stalls would be put in place towards the end of October but now admit they do not how long the delays will last. Stallholders have urged council bosses to work fast to resolve problems before the winter arrives.

Temporary stalls have been arranged on the other side of the town's 19th century fountain with additional stalls set up in Stone Street Square at busy times. But chairman of Dudley Market Traders' Association, Len Lenihan, says these would not stand up to wintry conditions.

"It is worrying and concerning for market traders to hear about these delays," he said. "At this moment we are not fully aware of the total length of the delays and that is a problem."

"We do not really want to be on these temporary stalls

By Andrew Turton

in the winter and the council need to come up with an innovative way to more forward. On these temporary stalls there is water running between the stalls in the rain and it would be like a skating rink in the winter."

Dudley Council's regeneration boss Councillor Judy Foster said: "We have to modify part of the steel work to accommodate an unforeseen problem with ground levels. As a consequence, our planned works are being reprogrammed and work will now begin at the other end of the scheme (in New Street). There will be some disruption to the scheme. However, it is too early to determine the length of any delay at this stage."

Parts of New Street and Castle Street were closed to lay paving. Castle Street, New Street and Fisher Street re-opened to traffic last month. Four parking spaces, ring and ride and disabled bays have been created in Castle Street.

Murder charge is dropped

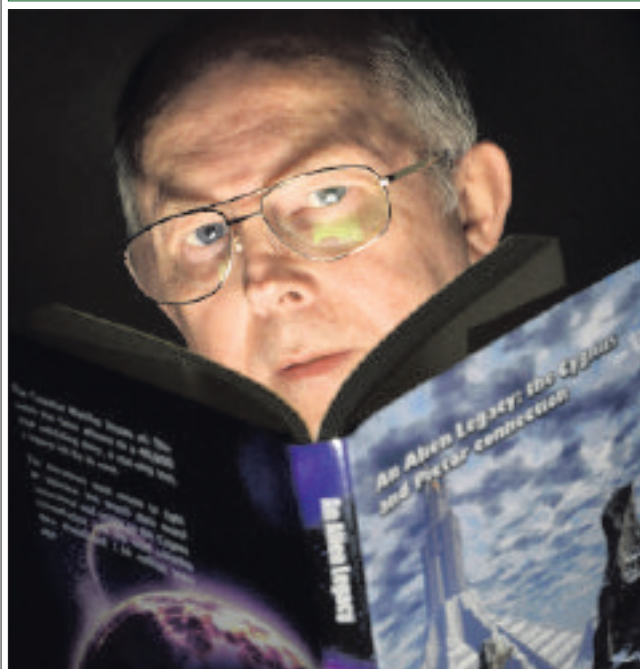
A WOMAN accused of the murder of an Halesowen pensioner has had the charge against her dropped.

The case against Chantelle Moran-Stokes, aged 24, of Latches Close, Darlaston, has been discontinued, police confirmed last week. She had been accused of murdering 80-year-old Cynthia Beamon.

Leo Barnes, of Runcorn Road, Balsall Heath, is charged with the murder of Mrs Beamon and also a murder in London.

He is due to appear at Wolverhampton Crown Court on October 10.

Author reaches for the stars



Author David J Price, of Sedgley, with his new science fiction novel *An Alien Legacy*

AN AUTHOR from Sedgley is delving into the world of science fiction with his latest offering which tracks a 40,000 year long story about a lost star ship.

Wolverhampton-born David J Price has penned *An Alien Legacy: The Cygnus and Pictor Connection*.

The retired quality assurance manager first picked up the writing bug after penning a short story in 1998.

From there he began entering competitions, gaining a special merit from the

Writers Guild for a children's story, before publishing a collection of his short stories last year.

Moving away from children's fiction, David has now published *An Alien Legacy* to target adult science-fiction fans.

He has already received several good reviews, and says he is already considering a follow-up.

The ebook of *An Alien Legacy* is on all main platforms, and print copies are already in Waterstones.

Meeting to be held on scheme for waste site

CAMPAIGNERS fighting plans for a waste recycling plant in Brierley Hill have organised a public meeting to discuss the latest plans.

Clean Power has resubmitted plans for land off Moor Street with improved odour management arrangements after a previous planning application was thrown out by Dudley Council.

The revamped plan already faces opposition from Say No to Waste campaign group, which has organised a meeting for September 15 at Hawbush Primary School, in Hawbush Road, at 7.30pm.

In the revised application internal air-locks are proposed at three vehicle entrances to the building. It is Clean Power's second application after its initial proposals were thrown out amid concerns smells could waft over homes.

The six-acre plant could process about 195,000 tons of waste a year, creating energy for up to 10,000 homes. It would create 34 jobs.

A spokesman said: "Our proposals represent a very significant waste and recycling investment in Brierley Hill. It is needed so that the area does not continue landfilling and burning waste that could and should be better utilised."

Sneek peak at premiere

ACTORS Cillian Murphy and Tom Hardy will be among the stars to appear at a premiere in Birmingham for the return of hit TV drama *Peaky Blinders*.

The pair, along with Helen McCrory, will be walking the red carpet at Cineworld in Broad Street on September 21.

The award-winning BBC drama series, much of which is filmed in Dudley at the Black Country Living Museum, returns to TV screens later this year.

It is set in Birmingham's criminal underworld between the wars.

Homes site raided

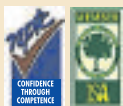
THIEVES stole around £10,000 worth of construction equipment from a building site of a major new homes development in Hagley. A plant generator and power tools were among items taken from the Cala Homes site in Kidderminster Road last month.

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Man finds his heroin addicted son dead

A HEROIN addict who was found dead by his father died of an overdose, an inquest heard.

Andrew Harper, 48, died at Kenilworth Court in Dudley on May 12 after his father, Arthur Harper, found him on the floor in his living room. He called for an ambulance but paramedics could do nothing to save him.

Mr Harper said his son, a former haulage driver, had been a heroin addict for 20 years but had kicked the habit after spending nine months in prison last year. He said: "I suspect he got talking to people again and started taking it again around Christmas. When I found him I thought he was having a diabetic fit, because I had found him in that position before."

Senior coroner for the Black Country Robin Balmain said a pathologist's report showed that Mr Harper had 118 microgrammes of morphine, derived from heroin, in his blood. He told the court at Smethwick Council House that death is overdose levels can be anywhere between 100mcg and 500mcg per litre of blood. He added: "The medical cause of death was heroin toxicity. The message for everybody here is these drugs will probably end up killing you."

Jam-buster island plans

MOTORISTS will have to wait another month to find out the results of a public consultation on plans to improve one of the Black Country's busiest junctions. Sandwell Council held the review on four traffic management options for Oldbury's notoriously congested Birchley Island. Hundreds of people responded to the consultation, where proposals include a two-way 'ham-burger island'.

Councillors will consider the scheme on October 22 and it is hoped work will start on the project in March 2016.

Ambulance ball

TICKETS are available for a charity ball in aid of the Midlands Air Ambulance on Saturday at the Copthorne Hotel, Brierley Hill, including a meal and music from Chris Passey and his band. Tickets are £25. Call Angie Taylor on 07702 972443.

Residents' air quality fear over crossing

A FRESH bid by a college to install a pedestrian crossing between two campuses in Dudley town centre has drawn further opposition from nearby residents.

Dudley College lodged an appeal after plans for the puffin crossing in Tower Street, Dudley, were thrown out by councillors on the planning committee. It followed objections from residents who were worried that it would result in noise disturbance due to students gathering at the site.

They were also concerned that queuing traffic at the crossing would cause air quality problems.

But, in the appeal to the Planning Inspec-

torate, a statement on behalf of the college described any impact on nearby residents and air quality as 'mostly negligible and at worst minor'.

The college wants the crossing installed in a bid to reduce the risk of an accident and claims the crossing between the Evolve campus and Broadway centre would provide a safe walkway for 1,500 students.

Resident Colin Knipe, of Priory Close, said that did not outweigh disruption it would cause to traffic. He added: "While the opening of Evolve has led to students and some staff walking from Evolve to the main Broadway campus and back, the peak pe-

destrian movements are at different times of day to the busiest road traffic periods.

"The college's own figures show that at peak traffic times the crossing would cause significant additional queuing and knock-on effects."

Another resident, who did not wish to be named, said: "It would be horrendous. With the backing up of vehicles and the burning of fuel, it would be unbearable to live near. It's bad enough as it is near the main road for air quality, this would make it awful."

Councillors said that when traffic was stationary the air quality in the immediate vicinity of the queue would, in the

opinion of the committee, be adversely affected due to increased exhaust emissions.

The proposal by the college came after the opening of the Evolve campus two years ago. Built on the site of the former fire station, it accommodates up to 800 students a day and is part of the college's £36m Learning Quarter in the town centre.

Following the refusal of the application, principal Lowell Williams described it as a 'shock decision'. Studentstook part in the demonstration wearing T-shirts with tyre marks across them.

The appeal will be decided at a planning inquiry later this year.

Ex-soldier nurse behind biggest ammo haul jailed

Report by Peter Madeley

A FORMER ambulance controller based at Brierley Hill has been jailed for seven years after a raid at her home found the biggest haul of ammunition and explosives ever found by West Midlands Police.

Joanne Morris had seven sticks of plastic explosives and a home-made bomb when police swooped on her home in Station Street, Bloxwich on November 14 last year.

During a three-and-a-half day search of the property officers also seized 1,990 rounds of live ammunition, a dismantled 12-bore shotgun and 15 detonators. Residents, local businesses and Bloxwich police station nearby were evacuated as the incredible haul was uncovered.

Chemical warfare protection suits and ration packs were also discovered at the address along with two samurai swords, a harpoon and a number of air pistols. Police said it looked like she was preparing for 'a World War 3 Doomsday scenario'.

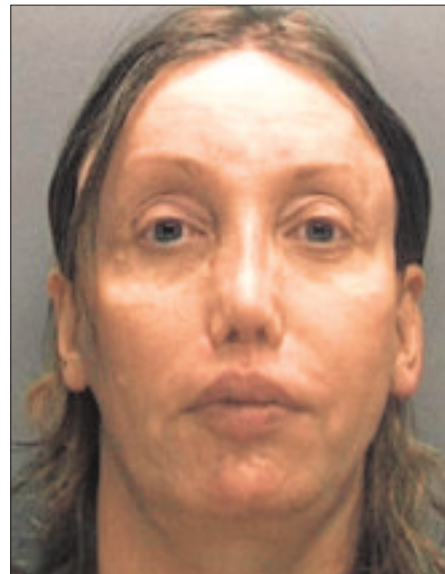
On the second day of the search bomb-disposal experts from the Army were called in to conduct a controlled explosion on five detonators found buried in a flowerbed in the back garden.

Transgender

At Wolverhampton Crown Court yesterday the 48-year-old, also a former soldier, was handed a seven-year prison sentence after Judge John Warner said she had 'a long-standing obsession with weapons'.

Morris, who is transgender and was a man known as Paul Morris at the time of the raid worked as a nurse at New Cross Hospital in Wolverhampton and an ambulance controller in Brierley Hill. Police carried out a dawn raid on the property after border agency staff intercepted a parcel from the US containing gun parts addressed to her. The court was told a search - involving more than 100 officers and costing £50,000 - revealed the arms cache.

Mr Hugh O'Brien Quinn, prosecuting, said: "There was a huge quantity of ammunition, plastic explosives and other weapons stored insecurely. Morris was not deemed



Ex-soldier Paul or Joanne Morris, who has been jailed

suitable to be in possession of any of it. She was obsessed with weapons."

Morris had accumulated the large stash of ammunition over 20 years. She claimed to have held onto a collection of 476 deadly hollow-point cartridges from her time as a member of the Charter Gun Club in Wales, while the explosives and detonators were from her time in the Army.

Morris served with the Royal Engineers for 10 years. During her tenure she was a man based at barracks in Wiltshire and saw service in the Falklands before being discharged in 1992. She had a firearms licence but this was withdrawn in April 1993 after she accidentally shot her wife in the leg while cleaning a revolver. Morris received a conditional discharge for the offence.

The court was told that on the second day of the search officers found what they

thought was a grenade, which turned out to be a relatively harmless smoke grenade. But during a search of a flowerbed, 15 detonators, seven sticks of PD4 plastic explosives, 16 metres of safety fuse and a firing device were unearthed. This led to an evacuation of the area while bomb disposal experts carried out as series of explosions. Mr O'Brien Quinn said: "If all seven sticks of the PD4 were initiated the number of casualties and damage to buildings would have been substantial."

Morris joined the Territorial Army after leaving the regular army, before she was took a position as a nurse at New Cross Hospital in Wolverhampton in 2003. She left the job after she was attacked by a patient in 2009 and received compensation. She was working at Brierley Hill ambulance control centre at the time of arrest.



Ammunition stored in a metal case



A bullet press was among the haul



Bomb disposal officers at the properties near Bloxwich police station

Mr Brian Dean, defending, said the ammunition was unusable, while the parts of the shotgun recovered were damaged beyond repair. He added: "She is emotionally intelligent and coherent, not hostile or aggressive. She has long held a powerful desire to live her life as a woman and had led a blameless life. She is a gentle soul."

Morris pleaded guilty to four counts of possessing an explosive substance, four counts of unlawful possession of ammunition, possessing a shotgun and making an explosive substance.

Wearing a grey business suit and blouse, she showed no emotion as she was sentenced. Ordering custody in a male jail, Judge Warner told her: "I accept transgender issues will have had a profound effect on your life, but they are wholly unconnected to your culpability for the crimes."

New chairwoman appointed at Trust

A NEW chairwoman has been appointed at Dudley and Walsall Mental Health Partnership NHS Trust.

Danielle Oum, of Birmingham, said: "I'm delighted to be joining the Trust and look forward to working with the board and staff teams, partners in the local health economy and community groups to help ensure residents receive the best care possible."

A non-executive director at Walsall Healthcare NHS Trust, she supported the Dudley Primary Care Trust during 2009-10 with the transfer of services

Euro cash signs off on zoo project

MORE than 300 new information signs about Dudley Zoo's 1,300-strong animal collection have been put up across the Castle Hill site.

The £150,000 scheme to replace the attraction's 20-year-old signs began in February and will have taken 12 months, from design to installation, to be rolled out across the whole site. Money for the project came from the European Regeneration Development Fund. A further 100 signs will be installed at the 40-acre site.

Road closed for gas pipe work

A ROAD has been closed to traffic as part of work to revamp gas mains.

Trinity Street in Cradley Heath will be shut until September 19 between Haden Road and Halesowen Road. Traffic will be diverted via Halesowen Road, which is temporarily one-way, Reddal Hill Road, and Lawrence Lane.

National Grid is replacing pipes along Halesowen Road.

Antiques to be valued at event

SIGHT loss charity Beacon is hosting its own version of Antiques Roadshow at its HQ in Sedgley on Saturday, September 20.

For £3 auctioneers from Cattlestones will value the items brought to the Beacon Centre on Wolverhampton Road East between 10am and 2pm. Any large items should be pre-booked with the charity.

Forces on parade

STOURBRIDGE branch of the Royal Air Forces Association will hold its annual Battle of Britain Parade Service on Sunday, September 21. The parade will take place from Mary Stevens Park at 11am.

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money, although that obviously helps. Many tradespeople have struggled since last year and I honestly feel that during the good times a minority perhaps didn't focus on customer care as much as they should have done.

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Cloudy2Clear service Wolverhampton and the surrounding

area and Brian is finding that his approach is a major factor in his success. "The truth is that it's not just the personal satisfaction that I get from doing a good job but also it makes good business sense. I get a huge amount of business from friends and family of people



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IN MY VIEW
with Mark Andrews

AT the Nato conference in Gwent, the two men eyed each other up, the President of the United States came face-to-face with the Mayor of Newport and the Celtic Manor golf resort.

"I tried not to be overawed by the occasion, so I just shook him by the hand. But I think he could tell I was a little star-struck at being in the company of a man of his standing," said Barack Obama.

Actually, I might have made that bit up. Old Barry actually said everybody should go on holiday to Wales.

Why does that not surprise me. One of the weakest, most indecisive presidents in living memory is a big fan of the land which is famous for its largest population of sheep. Who would have thought it?

Talking about the delights of Wales, it seems a group of workmen in the Castle Vale area of Birmingham seem to have got a bit carried away with their love of the place when they put up a roadworks sign in the Welsh language.

The notice, in Chester Road, near Castle Vale, said: "Fyddal'r ceblau cables a systemau gweithio ar ran grid cenedlaethol yn hoffi i ymddiheurwn am unrhyw anhwylystod yn ystod hyn gwaith hanfodol."

"Unrhyw ymholiadau cysylltwch 0845 400 2 132."

And who could argue with that? I do think it will be lost on the Brummies though. As any Black Country mon will tell you, they think swearing makes you bilingual.

SAD to hear that Benefits Street star Fungi has had his house in James Turner Street, Winson Green, broken into.

Unsurprisingly, nothing was stolen, but Fungi understandably traumatised to find his property violated. He returned home to find his bedclothes changed and his kitchen fumigated.

POLITICIANS who do not believe in climate change should be 'crushed and buried,' according to Sir Paul Nurse, the new president of the British Science Association.

Now to be fair, when it comes to crushing and burying politicians, I'm usually as up for it as the next man, but I do think he is being a little over-selective.

Sounding slightly like a poor man's Bond villain, Sir Paul said: "Politicians can't play with science, they have to listen to scientists." Or else?

He added that some climate-change sceptics were 'serial offenders' who he wants to make 'ashamed of the things they say'. Or failing that, dropping them into a large tank of piranhas, no doubt.

On a totally different subject, the West Midlands has just experienced its coldest August since 1993. I'd better prepare for sleeping with the fishes...



The M&B sign shines through the flames



Much of the building was damaged by fires



Springfield Brewery fire brigade years ago

Brewery to spring back for university

DANIEL WAINWRIGHT reveals ambitious plans for a campus and school at the derelict Springfield site

THE derelict former M&B Springfield Brewery site in Wolverhampton is to be transformed into a university campus and school under £60 million plans.

The University of Wolverhampton has agreed to buy the fire-ravaged brewery to create a centre to educate students wanting careers in the construction industry.

There are plans to redevelop the site to become the home of the new West Midlands University Technical College (UTC) for Construction, which the university is sponsoring along with the Construction Industry Training Board (CITB).

Excellence

And the university also plans to relocate its own School of Architecture and the Built Environment there.

Vice-Chancellor of the University of Wolverhampton, Professor Geoff Layer, said: "This will provide a centre of excellence with the most comprehensive construction education and training not only in the country but in Europe."

An agreement to buy the 12-acre site which has been vacant since 1991 when the Mitchells & Butler brewery closed, has been reached with the aim to finalise the deal in the next few months.

It has not been revealed how much of the site, which dates back to 1873, will be preserved and which parts will be torn down. The brewery buildings were damaged by fires in 2004 and 2005.

The site had long been set aside for housing and more than £2 million was spent bringing buildings back to their



Councillor Peter Bilson, Geoff Layer, vice chancellor of the University and Tom Macdonald, principal designate at West Midlands Construction UTC

former glory so they could become 140 flats. But the full plans never went ahead. The UTC will provide education for 14 to 19-year-olds with a special focus on construction skills.

It will open in September 2015 on a temporary site before moving into new buildings at Springfield in September 2016.

The University's School of Architecture and the Built Environment, which is based within the city centre campus, provides courses in construction management, civil engineering, quantity

surveying, architecture and environmental management. It has around 1,000 students and is expected to grow by a third after the move.

Professor Layer said: "We are delighted to be working with the CITB in bringing this project together."

"This is hugely positive news for the construction industry and for Wolverhampton and the Black Country."

"The development will put the area on the map in terms of construction education and training and will mean that we can provide skills and educa-

tion from the age of 14, right through to senior professionals wanting to improve their own development. It is also exciting for the City of Wolverhampton."

It was a key factor for us to have this centre here in the city to support economic development by regenerating a brownfield site and creating jobs and providing the right skills needed by industry.

"This area has a history of manufacturing and once up and running the centre will provide future opportunities for people to continue adding to that heritage."

Tom MacDonald, principal designate of WMCUTC added: "Being able to build the WMCUTC on the Springfield Brewery site is great news."

"A formerly derelict site will now become the home of a world beating, state of the art UTC offering unique opportunities and high quality education for talented students from across the West Midlands."

Transform

"Uniquely the first group of students to join us in September 2015 will also get to work on the design and planning for the new build."

"In the years to come, the West Midlands Construction UTC will transform not only the career prospects of its students but the economy of a once derelict area of the city."

Councillor Peter Bilson, Wolverhampton City Council's deputy leader, said it was an exciting proposal.

"This will breathe new life into a vacant site and bring more jobs and opportunity to our city," he said.

"The construction sector has a major role to play in the overall regeneration and long-term prosperity of Wolverhampton."

"It is therefore important a skilled workforce is developed to take advantage of career opportunities that will arise over the next few years and this development can help us achieve that."

WEEK IN POLITICS
with Daniel Wainwright

MUCH has been written this week concerning the whys and wherefores of Dudley South MP Chris Kelly's decision to stand down.

He is going to finish the job he was elected to do, rather than seek to renew his term of office.

But the big problem for the Conservatives is still one of timing, as much as it is the loss of yet another MP from the 2010 intake.

When Mr Kelly was chosen as the Prospective Parliamentary Candidate in 2007 there was the possibility of a snap election being called by the then relatively-new Prime Minister Gordon Brown.

Labour's decision not to go to the country until 2010 gave the Tory candidate a good few years to get himself known in the area, get to grips with local matters and build up support not just for the party, but personally. Now there are just eight months to go.

If the Tories are to have any hope of a majority then they have to hold on to every single seat they won in 2010 and gain more.

David Cameron cannot afford to lose Dudley South or let go of Cannock Chase, Halesowen and Rowley Regis, Stafford, Stourbridge or Wolverhampton South West.

Chris Kelly's reasons for going are, he says, personal. Even so, there is a pattern the Conservatives have to address.

As many as nine of the 2010 intake – including Cannock Chase's Aidan Burley – are throwing in the towel. Mr Burley's reasons are also of his own making. Had he not gone to a stag party where the groom wore a Nazi uniform, his career might not have been as brief.

Being the incumbent MP usually brings advantages if the candidate has a record in office they can stand by. The task for untested Labour candidates is now much easier than it was a few months ago. They will have been out on the streets, knocking doors for longer than the Tories brought in to replace sitting MPs.

The 2015 election will be fought on multiple fronts, with UKIP taking votes from all sides. It is hardly the ideal time for rookies.

George Osborne is like a good house guest. When he turns up in the West Midlands he brings a present.

A recent visit to the Black Country saw him promise funding for the long-awaited new super hospital in Smethwick – something that had been drawn up under Labour but wasn't delivered.

And when he went to Screwfix in Cannock he was the one who announced lots of new jobs on the way. It is a remarkable turnaround for a man who was booed at the Olympics because of his 'omnishambles' budget to now be the one able to say to the electorate 'we told you so'.



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Commissioner role is waste of money

YET another very low turn out to vote for a police commissioner, which they blame on the holiday season and need for a quick election. The truth of the matter is that people are not interested in such a post.

Each candidate is affiliated to a political party and I would suggest there would have been a slightly better turnout if a candidate were a member of the public and their only allegiance would be to their role of police commissioner and not a political party. The public are very wary of politicians and what the say they will do.

Bid to help campaign for theatre

RE Friends of Dudley Hippodrome — I have to say that I saw a statement that said 'we need to raise £5,000 so that we can become a charity that will allow us to try and access funds for charity organisations'.

You do not have to do this, all you have to do to form a constitution and have three trustees.

Of course, this has to be done properly. There are plenty of opportunities were funding can be obtained.

I myself am a trustee of a local charity and understand how to access funding. I fully support what they are trying to achieve and would like to offer my help again.

I also hope that all our councillors, when asked their views on the Hippodrome, that they will not be ruled by a chief whip who has told them to not comment. Don't forget you were elected to serve your electorate that voted you into council. They have the right to know.

**STEVE DANIELS
UKIP NETHERTON,
WOODSIDE &
ST ANDREWS**

The word commissioner stirs up images of America, we already have to much of their ways. Our prime minister, when making a speech, stands behind a podium similar to their president, we have even got to the stage that when the national anthem is played I have seen members of the public with their arm across their chest.

The role of commissioner is neither required or wanted by the public, it is just a waste of tax payers' money.

**P LOWE
BRIERLEY HILL**

Correctness is a monster

IT has long been my belief that political correctness is rotting the very fabric of our society.

What was originally a noble attempt to clarify the way that all citizens should fairly interact in a society has spawned a monster that throttles free discussion and censors truth.

A major element of the current Rotherham child scandal is the effect of the creature's growth.

All should be treated as equal before the law. The colour of one's skin or one's religion should never enter into the equation. As it was, undoubtedly, a factor in this disaster. The fear of the word 'racism' which is now used as a shield to protect all manner of unacceptable practices. In this case it has resulted in 1,400 youngsters being scarred for life mentally and physically.

**A M ETHERIDGE
SEDGLEY**

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

POST

Dudley Chronicle,
Chronicle Editorial,
51-53 Queen Street,
Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES

Letters should be brief and MUST include name, address and telephone number. The Editor reserves the right to condense letters.

E-MAIL

Dudley.chrons@
expressandstar.co.uk

Parliament does not listen to the people

TIME and time again the subject of immigration keeps coming up. When the Conservatives formed a coalition in 2010 they blamed Labour for the amount of asylum seekers coming into Britain and Cameron said he was going to get it down below the hundred thousand mark. Four years on the latest figures show that 250,000 have come in.

None of the main parties seem to be either concerned about the figures and the majority of people in the country cannot understand why the coalition cannot get the numbers down. It has been said that if the present amount of people keep coming in, in the next 20 years we will need to create 20 more cities the size of Birmingham.

Nobody in Parliament is listening. The people do not want the numbers coming in reduced, they want it halted. Ask the MPs to look at my lips, 'zero'. This country is overflowing.

We are much smaller than Australia, America, France, Germany and Russia.

This country would be so much better off in our NHS, schools and employment if the population was halted.

So, please Mr Cameron, Nick Clegg, Ed Miliband, listen to the people of this country and act on why the people of the country voted for you.

We are sick of all of the promises that you keep peddling out to us and fail to carry out. We want action.

**B WHITEHOUSE
KINGSWINFORD**

Need to bag information

I am hoping to enlist the help of readers to make sure that a piece of Bilston's history is not forgotten. I began as a driver for Bilston Service Laundry, Vulcan Road in 1959. The laundry provided a 'bag wash' service in the 50s and 60s for people in the Black Country, Wolverhampton and a large area of Birmingham so I was astonished when my searches failed to provide any mention of Bilston Service Laundry. If readers have any memories contact me at trevorworrall@blueyonder.co.uk or on 07932604893.

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The Scouts at the unveiling of their War Memorial in 2014



The Air Scouts in 1970, in front of their Anson aircraft



Air Scout trying out one of the resident aircraft for size



The birth of the Halfpenny Green Air Scouts on August 16, 1964 with their Proctor aircraft

Air scouts still flying high – 50 years on

ON October 25, 2014 the Halfpenny Green Air Scouts are due to celebrate 50 years of existence.

They are the only Air Scout Group in the Midlands, out of 140, and are one of the 50 plus recognised by the RAF.

The Air Scouts were formed in 1941, for air-minded kids who were too young for the Air Training Corps.

Donated

The Halfpenny Green Group were formed on October 16, 1964, based in a building on Halfpenny Green airfield, where they remain to this day.

At their inauguration they were able to show off their Percival Proctor aircraft which had been donated to them by Mr Frank Flavell.

In 1968 a new section called

MEMORY LANE

By Alec Brew

Venture Scouts for older children aged 14-18 was formed and a twin engined Avro Anson aircraft was donated by the RAF.

The two aircraft suffered from the weather over the years and a certain amount of vandalism and were donated to museums, but the group still owns a Slingsby T-31 glider.

The Group meet every weekend and are privileged to be one of the few groups based on an active airfield, taking an active part in air-port events.

In 2011 a new group scout leader, Karl Owen instituted two new sections.

They were the Air Beavers aged 6-8 and Air Cubs aged 8-10, and all sections are thriving, but are

always on the lookout for new members.

In 2014 the Group raised the money to create a long-desired war memorial for the wartime airfield, and airport manager Alistair MacKinnon allowed it to be sited at the main entrance.

As every year the group hold a Battle of Britain War Memorial service at the airfield on Battle of Britain Day which will be on Sunday, September 14.

Special

All past members, friends or leaders are invited to a special 50th anniversary commemoration event to be held at the airfield on October 25.

This is a private event, and to book your place contact Karl Owen on 01384-221010, 07869772196 or you can instead email to karlo.hgas@gmail.com



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Blooming lovely in community garden



MP Gavin Williamson pictured right with, from left, Brian Roberts, Marie Roberts, Mike Hails and Margaret Rogers

A COMMUNITY garden and allotments was looking glorious as guests toured the village site to see its transformation.

Just five years ago the site in Kinner was a field but thanks to dedicated volunteers the patch of land is now picture perfect. Lush turfed walkways snake between borders full of flowers, vegetables and fruit plants.

Kinner Allotment Association was established in November 2009 and, after working with a landowner, members secured use of the site in

Greensforge Lane and set about re-vamping it. More than 30 plots were created.

The site has flourished through hard work and grants, including almost £8,000 from the National Lottery's Awards for All scheme, funding from the Ken Wrigley Memorial charity and the Anthony and Gwendoline Wyld Memorial charity. There was also support from Kinner Parish Council and county councillor Brian Edwards.

Then, last November, plot-holders Marie and Brian Roberts decided to

give up their own allotment to help create the community garden. It has welcomed visitors from horticultural societies and senior citizen groups in recent months and South Staffordshire MP Gavin Williamson was the latest to visit.

Association president Margaret Rogers said: "The garden is looking wonderful and it is down to the hard work of Marie and Brian Roberts."

Groups of children from schools will be invited to the site and further open days will be held.

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Get on together and stay happy, say couple



Albert and Nora Silcox, of Delph Road, Brierley Hill, who are celebrating their 60th wedding anniversary

A COUPLE who have lived in Brierley Hill for more than 60 years say that secret to a long marriage is ensuring that you get on well together.

Nora and Albert Silcox are celebrating their diamond wedding anniversary after first meeting at a town hall dance in Stourbridge in 1952. Nora, 86, said: "About 12 months later we were at a birthday party and a chap said to Albert 'you should take her home'. He's been taking me home ever since."

She recalled that their first home together had to be fixed up because it had an outside toilet, a gas light and no hot water.

After national service Albert worked at the Round Oak Steelworks, near where the Merry Hill shopping centre now stands, until he retired when it closed in 1982.

Nora said there was no secret to a long-lasting marriage other than to get on well with the other person. She added: "We don't owe anybody a penny, we have always done things for each other and we have had many happy years together."



The couple on their wedding day

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COMMERCIAL FEATURE

Don't be disappointed - choose Choices Windows

The home improvement market is changing and the demand for more choice in colour and suitability of PVC-U doors and windows is growing. Fashionable additions such as orangeries are increasingly desirable, as more people look for ways to improve their home.

Established since 1994, Tipton Windows & Conservatories Ltd, trading as Choices, believe that the latest trends are important, but quality products and exceptional service will always be paramount, which this family run business have proven over two decades.

Situated on Sedgley Road West in Tipton, the founder and company Managing Director Nathan Beddows started the business from scratch at the early age of 19 working out of the very same premises as he does today. He explains his passion:

"I cannot stress enough how much pride we take in every window, door, conservatory, orangery we manufacture and install."

With its roots in manufacturing, the business started more than 20 years ago, and right from the very start an emphasis has been placed on supplying only the finest and most energy-efficient products, but still remaining affordable.

"Our commitment extends beyond the manufacturing process to the design and installation of doors, windows, conservatories and other home improvement services," explains Nathan.

"For some customers we supply new windows and doors, for others we provide a complete home improvement service from building extensions and fitting kitchens, to designing and installing conservatories and more recently Orangeries," says Nathan.

One tremendously satisfied customer is Rick Houghton. Having been recommended to Choices Windows by colleagues at work he employed them to carry out extensive work at his home, he is keen to share his experiences and commend the team involved.

"Every stage of the process was excellently planned and we received nothing but the best service from start to finish. The tradesmen were outstanding and we were so impressed that we handed over our keys and went on holiday whilst the work was being carried out."

Rick and his family were absolutely thrilled and utterly delighted with the results on their return.

"We are so grateful to Nathan and his team for transforming our home into something we could only have dreamed of," remarked Rick.

Keen to keep ahead in the style stakes, Nathan is ever aware of the latest designs, materials and colours on offer, and strives to make these available to his customers.

"Many people are now opting for stylish coloured PVC-U, influenced by timeless muted 'National Trust' tones. Sage green, gun metal grey and cream are all becoming very fashionable alongside the traditional clean bright white," explains Nathan.

Fitting new PVC-U windows can be a good choice for the environment as well as for your home. Replacing dated double glazing can help save money on heating bills and reduce the carbon footprint of a residence.

"We offer A-rated energy-efficient windows and doors which can help save up to £250 from heating bills in the first year alone. They not only reflect heat back into the house, but also retain heat from solar gain," remarks Nathan.

"As a company we pride ourselves on giving old fashioned value for money and excellent service, we can undertake the majority of jobs and because we manufacture in house at our premises unlike the majority of our local competitors it enables us to have full control so we can manage your project from start to completion ensuring your experience is stress free".

"After many years in the Double glazing business we have seen a lot of competitors come and go, unfortunately leaving many customers without any warranty, after parting with their hard earned cash. Any customer who is considering having any home improvements should choose carefully and do their homework on the company they are considering, ensure if you part with money upfront it is protected by a Fensa approved deposit indemnity scheme, ask to visit previous customers but most importantly don't be fooled by the salesman's tactics of a tempting "sign on the night low price offer" that the double glazing industry is notorious for "advises Nathan.

The old sayings are always the best - after a low price is long forgotten, poor quality long remains".

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Two locked up for roles in £1.7m tobacco racket

TWO members of a gang behind a £1.7million cigarette and tobacco smuggling racket have been jailed.

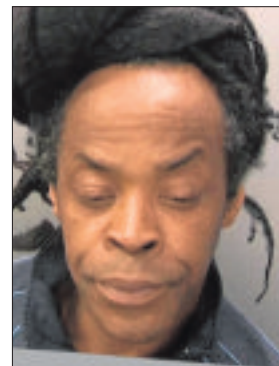
Alan Nesbeth, aged 53, was put behind bars for five years while 28-year-old Jian Ning Yang was locked up for two-and-a-half years.

Some of the contraband was sent into the country through the post in packages and parcels from China and Korea disguised as tea, Wolverhampton Crown Court heard last week. The rest was driven into the UK by the lorry load, explained Miss Heidi Kubik, prosecuting.

The racket was smashed by Revenue and Customs investigators who swooped to seize hundreds of thousands of illicit cigarettes and tons of rolling tobacco.



Jian Yang — cigarettes found in boot



Alan Nesbeth — rented container

Storage

A huge haul, on which £1.6 million duty had been evaded, was recovered after the juggernaut, in which it had been concealed among a load of steel wool, arrived at the Alligator Self Storage unit in Portway Road, Wednesbury, in May 2013.

Fifteen months earlier another raid by officials on the Leavesley Containers in Wellington Road, Dudley, had unearthed tobacco and cigarettes on which £131,000 duty had been dodged. That had been smuggled into the country as either freight or in postal packages of 'tea'.

Yang played an important role in the latter, acting as a link between the UK and Chinese arms of the operation because he spoke good English. Investigators had watched him transferring heavy boxes from the container to his car. His green BMW was then tailed to a house in Greenhill Road, Handsworth, where more boxes and bin liners packed with tobacco were found.

Delivery companies were also seen dropping off packages at the address from which 8,000 illicit cigarettes and tobacco were recovered. A £38,175 cash stash was later discovered at his home in Linwood Road, Dudley.

Surveillance teams saw packages of 'tea' being collected from Bilston post office by 53-year-old Nesbeth and Renna Graham. The former was also spotted selling tobacco in the street outside the post office in the summer of 2012.

Around 10,800 cigarettes were found in the boot of Yang's car when it was stopped by investigators while both Nesbeth and 63-year-old Graham were travelling as passengers.

Nesbeth, of Glyn Avenue, Moxley, was seen at the Alligator Self Storage in May the following year where surveillance filmed boxes being unloaded from the lorry to a container that had been rented by him under the guise of storing electrical goods.

Conspiracy

She and Nesbeth were both convicted of conspiracy to evade excise duty through the fraudulent importation of cigarettes and tobacco between July 2011 and January 2013 while Yang admitted the offence.

Graham was given a 15 month prison sentence suspended under supervision for 18 months.

Judge Michael Dudley told them: "This was a highly sophisticated smuggling operation involving Chinese and Korean connections."

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DUDLEY HOME IMPROVEMENT SERVICE

College labs in a £1m revamp

MORE than £1 million has been spent re-vamping science labs at Stourbridge College. Work to upgrade the facilities took place during the summer break.

It comes as work continues on a £5 million scheme to create a new reception area and health and social care centre. It is expected to be completed by February.

Ben Grimley, assistant director for science, said: "We are all really excited by the prospect of moving the faculty into new purpose-built laboratories as part of the multi-million pound refurbishment of the Hagley Road site. This will now enable the college to deliver A-level physics alongside its other A-level sciences with A-level biology being one of the subjects achieving 100 per cent pass rates this summer."

"The new facilities will also enable more science courses to be offered to part-time students and adult learners as well as offering bright, engaging and innovative learning spaces for 16-19 year olds."

Cheeky teen achieves his naked ambition



Ben sheds his clothes to brave the cold on Mount Kilimanjaro

WHEN 18-year-old Ben Boleyn reached the top of Mount Kilimanjaro — raising £600 for Acorns Children's Hospice — he decided to mark the occasion in his own way.

After an eight-day trek to reach the peak, almost 6,000 metres above sea level, the cheeky teen stripped naked in temperatures of -12C.

Ben, from Kingswinford, said: "One volunteer said every time he goes to a national landmark he takes a naked picture of himself. It just snowballed after that. Everyone kept talking about it and one climber bet me 500 Tanzanian shillings, which is about 18p that I wouldn't do it. When we got to the top I just thought why not?"

Before the climb Ben, who wants to be a doctor, spent time volunteering at Mwananyamala hospital in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania. Ben recently finished his A-Levels at King Edward



Ben raised £6,000 for a hospice

VI College in Stourbridge where he got an A in Chemistry, A in Human Biology and a B in Maths.

Ben said: "I do voluntary work every week at Acorns Children's Hospice in Worcester so have seen the amazing work they do caring for terminally ill children." Donations can still be made at www.justgiving.com/Ben-Boleyn/

New grants available to boost business 'vitality'

PLANS to offer business owners the chance to bid for cash to brighten up empty shops have been approved. A £167,000 cash pot will be made available for projects in Dudley.

People will be able to apply for grants of up to £5,000. Money will be available for projects which can be used to improve the appearance of vacant units and 'grot spots' across the borough.

The cash is being offered by Dudley Council and has come from Government funding from the High Street Innovation Fund and Empty Shops Grant initiatives with former Area Committee Delegated Capital budgets £167,361.

Regeneration boss Councillor Judy Foster has given the scheme the go-ahead. She said: "Applications are invited for a wide range of proposals, however, the main consideration for applications will be whether they will improve the appearance or economic vitality of an area."

Jail for builder who made 'hollow promise' over deal

A FRAUDSTER who promised to pay his victims after making a deal with Nigerian president Goodluck Jonathan has been jailed for two years.

Builder Mark Ware continued to trade for four months after his business encountered financial trouble in January 2010, leaving homeowners in the Stourbridge area thousands of pounds out of pocket. Ware took deposits from customers for work that was never finished and failed to pay suppliers, carpenters and plumbers.

Ware, of Sutton Coldfield, pleaded guilty to three charges of VAT fraud and two of fraudulent trading earlier this year. He was due to be sentenced in June, and then in July, but the case was adjourned as the court heard that Ware was

involved in a multi-million pound deal with the Nigerian president Goodluck Jonathan.

It was said the deal would have earned Ware £2 million in bonuses which he could have used to pay off the debt. He was sent to prison after Birmingham Crown Court heard last week that the deal had not been completed.

Judge Mary Stacey said the builder had been 'utterly reckless'. She told him: "You have swung us along for many months with the hope and expectation of being put into funds so that people could be paid back. It turned out to be a hollow promise."

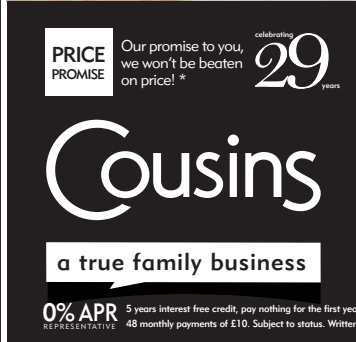
Prosecutor Nicholas Cole told the court Ware launched four firms and took on building contracts in 2006. He could no longer pay his debts by January 2010 but continued trading for four

months. Householders lost a total of £157,995.

Martin Butterworth, defending, said Ware accepted liabilities of up to £100,000. He added: "This whole venture was misconceived, that is, moving into an industry of which he had no experience."

One of the victims, David Jerrom, of Oldswinford, said a number of Ware's victims had come together to bring him to court with the help of Stourbridge MP Margot James, Bromsgrove MP Sajid Javid and a group called Scam Busters.

Another victim, Peter Mitchelson, from Hagley, said: "This shouldn't have taken four years to crawl through the justice system. If someone had walked into Oldswinford Post Office and stolen £160,000 they would get five years in prison, and that's what Ware should have got."



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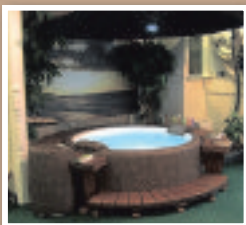
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It's a whole new stage in life for actor Lenny

HE started his career doing impersonations of Frank Spencer and Tommy Cooper on the TV talent show New Faces in the 1970s.

He became a household name creating comedy characters like DJ Delbert Wilkins, Theophilus P. Wildebeeste and Trevor MacDoughnut on prime time TV shows in the 80s and 90s.

But the 56-year-old Dudley-born funnyman Lenny Henry is turning his back on comedy so that he can focus on his career as a serious stage actor.

The former Blue Coat School pupil went on to become one of the nation's best-loved comic presenters with his regular role at the helm of Comic Relief charity marathons.

Drama

He started his transition into high quality drama with an acclaimed performance in Othello in 2009 and is currently appearing at Birmingham's Rep Theatre in a brand new play, called Rudy's Rare Records.

Based on a radio sitcom co-created by the actor/writer, it is a blend of drama and humour looking at family relations at a failing record shop.

Lenny, who is now based in London, regularly visits his native West Midlands and is looking forward to the show, which runs until September 20, and marks his drama debut in the city where he spent much of his time as a youth.

He said he was delighted to have earned the respect of audiences and critics alike for his work as a serious actor. This year he won a Critics Circle Theatre Award for his role in August Wilson's American drama Fences.

"Othello was a game changer. Who knew? Who knew?" he said. "I still love doing Delbert, Deakus, Theophilus and the bluesman. They are great characters and I still do those today. But what I'm more interested in now



Lenny Henry and Larrington Walker in rehearsal at Birmingham Rep

is storytelling. Comedy is a lottery, it's either funny or it's not and the audience decide.

"It's tricky to be a comedian and I did it for 25 years. I'm very proud of the work that I did.

"Comedy is definitely a young person's game. Observational comedy is difficult. There's only so many things

you can notice and after a while you just become repetitive. I didn't want to do that, so for me acting is the way forward."

He hasn't ruled out an eventual return to the stage as a stand-up comic but has no plans for comedy work and is instead challenging himself with dramatic roles in the theatre.

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Blind Dave joins Black Country Run



The Rotary Club's Alan Bowler from Halesowen and Blind Dave Heeley promote the Black Country Run

HE has run a marathon on every continent in seven successive days but this month 'Blind Dave' Heeley will be stepping down the mile on his home turf in a Black Country charity race.

The 56-year-old from West Bromwich is planning to dress as cartoon character Shrek when he takes part in The Great Black Country Run, a 10km race taking place in Halesowen on Sunday, September 21.

He will be joined by friends Tony Ellis and Rosemary Rhodes, who plan

to join in the theme by dressing up as other characters from the film.

The race takes place a year before they join the Marathon de Sables, which will see them run the equivalent of five-and-a-half marathons in the Sahara Desert.

Mr Heeley said: "It is the third year of The Great Black Country Run, they have asked me to take part the last couple of years but it has always happened on the same day at the Great North Run. This year it didn't so I put my name down.

"To add some fun, me and some friends taking part have decided to dress up as characters from Shrek. We do a lot of the runs and we always see people dressed up but have never done it. We're on the look-out for costumes."

The Great Black Country Run is organised by The Rotary Club of Halesowen & Rowley Regis in aid of local charities. As well as the 10km race, there will also be a 5km fun run. Last year the race raised £20,000 for charity. See www.theblackcountryrun.com

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Centre searching for perfect Santa

IT is still over 100 days until Christmas but garden centre bosses near Stourbridge have begun their search for the perfect Santa.

Staff at Webbs in West Hagley are looking for that special someone to help bring the magic of Christmas to customers.

The unusual job description includes being warm and friendly, prepared for unexpected questions and loving the magic of the festive season.

Executive chairman Ed Webb said: "White hair, a beard and a large belly are not essential but a hearty laugh and jolly personality will make all the difference! A full outfit will of course be provided.

"Children and families love the festive time and meeting Father Christmas is the icing on the cake for most youngsters."

For further details call 01527 860011.

Depressed driver crashed into back of car on purpose

A DEPRESSED driver deliberately careered into the back of a car travelling in front of him, a judge heard.

Father-of-three Colin Ford wanted to harm himself because life 'was not worth living,' Wolverhampton Crown Court was told. He had driven into a lamppost when in a similar state of mind two years earlier.

The 32-year-old took his seat belt off, put his foot down and ploughed into the rear of the Renault Megane ahead of his VW Transporter van at The Embankment in Brierley Hill on July 4.

Paul Reid, prosecuting, said the impact wrote

off the car Robert Bloomer was driving. His passenger Natalia Farnsworth needed hospital treatment for whiplash and bruising.

Mr Reid told the court: "The defendant was suffering from depression and wanted to harm himself." Ford called police on his mobile phone and waited until they arrived to arrest him.

Mr Shabeer Qureshi, defending, said: "He felt life was not worth living. It was a deliberate action but he only wanted to harm himself."

Ford, of Pleck Road, Walsall, who was uninjured in the collision, had suffered a panic attack while at the nearby Merry Hill

Shopping Centre. Stress over the break up with the mother of his children triggered the mental problems from which he was suffering and for which he was now receiving treatment.

Ford admitted dangerous driving. He was given a six-month prison sentence suspended under supervision for two years. He was also given a one-year driving ban and was ordered pay £450 compensation to Mr Bloomer.

Recorder Marcus Tregilgas-Davey told him: "It is fortunate the injury to the two people in the car you hit were not more serious. Potentially they could have been fatal."

New hotel is taking shape

STAIRWAYS are being built and timber roofing fitted at a new hotel and restaurant being built in Stourbridge.

The £6 million project to build the 80-bed Premier Inn and Brewers Fayre restaurant in Birmingham Street is on track, according to site manager Mark Sabin.

The development by Stourbridge-based Barberry will bring 65 jobs to the area and is targeted for completion this autumn.

Mr Sabin said: "We have about six weeks left and although things tend to still look like a building site that does tend to change very quickly in the later stages. The main aim now for the hotel side is putting together a 'sample room', so there is a clear indication of how things will look when the project is completed."

X Factor pop star inspires students



Singer Marcus Collins performed at Halesowen College

X Factor star Marcus Collins has been preparing for his latest tour by rehearsing with his band at Halesowen College.

Marcus chose the college for rehearsals as his musical director and keyboard player Dan Healey is a former student and music lecturer there.

The 26-year-old former hairdresser from Liverpool was runner up to girl band Little Mix in the eight series of X Factor in 2011.

Marcus also took time out to answer questions put forward by the students and performed two songs. He encouraged the students to be motivated and spoke about how his college courses in music and performing arts helped him.

Dave Robertson, curriculum team manager for Performing Arts at Halesowen College, said: "It was great to see the rehearsal and learn more about song choices, song composition and tour organization."

Marcus will be touring with his band including a concert at Telford's Oakengates Theatre on Wednesday, September 25.

Man, 44, was found hanged in woodland

A MAN found hanged in woods killed himself following a minor family row, an inquest heard. A walker found the body of Carl Rutter, aged 44, at Little Iwerley Covert near his Stourbridge home on June 11.

Coroner's officer Andrew Heathcote told the hearing in Cannock that Mr Rutter's family suspected he had mental health issues. Pc David Fletcher said Mr Rutter had left his home in Lavender Lane after an argument with his stepson over a cupboard door that had been left open, on which he bumped his head. He also said Mr Rutter had been concerned about a solicitors' letter he had received about a payment regarding his ex-partner. His wife Patricia and stepson became concerned when he did not return home.

South Staffs Coroner Andrew Haigh said: "He went somewhere where he was likely to be found by someone. I am satisfied beyond reasonable doubt that he intended to kill himself and has done so."

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Poison reputation of notorious doctor

History Book Reviews

IT was a case that shocked Victorian England and put Rugeley on the map.

Even now the tale of Dr William Palmer, aka the Prince of Poisoners, still sparks interest and debate – 158 years on from his death on June 14 1856, as a crowd of 30,000 bayed for his blood.

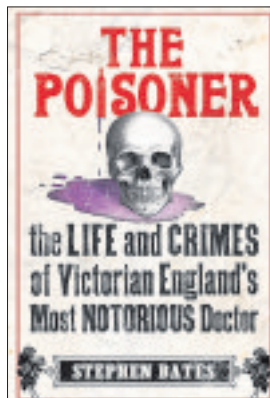
Former journalist Stephen Bates gives his take on Palmer's deeds. He was convicted of one murder, that of his friend John Parsons Cook, but was suspected of killing several more, most notably his wife and children.

In **The Poisoner: The Life and Crimes of Victorian England's Most Notorious Doctor** (Duckworth, hardback £16.99), Bates leaves the readers to draw their own conclusion from his meticulous research. It is Bates' ability to conjure up that uncertainty that makes this such a compelling read. **MS**

AN HISTORICAL epic with as much war, gore, deal making and double crossing as Game of Thrones, but it is historical fact rather than fantasy fiction that is the narrative in a new book which casts light on the Dark Ages.

Peter Heather examines 600 years of history, spanning the period between the fall of the Roman Empire and the rise of the Papacy in **The Restoration of Rome** (Pan, paperback, £12.99). He looks at several great European leaders who tried to emulate the greatness of the Roman Empire.

The last Roman Emperor of the West was still alive when the Goth warlord Theoderic made the first serious attempt to revive the glory of Rome with an empire stretching from Spain to Croatia. Though apparently able to slice an opponent in two with his sword, Theoderic turns out to have



The Poisoner looks at an infamous case

been an astute politician. He was certainly well-educated, having grown up in Constantinople as the guest/hostage of the Emperor of the Eastern Roman Empire, to ensure his father stayed on good terms.

Medieval

The Professor of Medieval History at King's College London goes on to tell about others who tried to reignite the imperial flame, such as Justinian and Charlemagne, key figures from early European history who are little known to a modern audience. There is plenty of detail with all the footnotes a serious history buff could want but Professor Heather also keeps the tone light and engaging for the more casual reader.

The White House is ablaze and the President and his wife only just had time to flee. And who is responsible... the British Army.

If you think that America winning the War of Independence put an end to violent conflict between the United States and Britain, prepare to be surprised, because 30 years later the Limays were back with a vengeance.

Two hundred years ago, in August 1814, Britain gave America a bloody nose in a confrontation that was to have a major impact on both nations, eventually turning bitter enemies into friends and allies.

Yet the British attack on Washington and Baltimore is almost forgotten, unlike the victory over America's former friend Napoleon which followed a few months later at Waterloo. The incident did, however, inspire America's National Anthem.

Read about this fascinating, largely overlooked, episode from history in journalist and broadcaster Peter Snow's fascinating account **When Britain Burned the White House: The 1814 Invasion of Washington** (John Murray, paperback, £9.99).

Dance critic Judith Mackrell turns to the Jazz Age in **Flappers** (Pan, paperback, £8.99), looking at the Roaring 20s through the eyes of six women who audaciously and daringly reinvented themselves for a new era. These formidable ladies – Diana Cooper, Nancy Cunard, Tallulah Bankhead, Zelda Fitzgerald, Josephine Baker and Tamara de Lempicka – were determined to do much more than look fashionable and dance the Charleston.

The Kremlin has long symbolised power in Russia and **Red Fortress: The Secret Heart of Russia's History** (Penguin, paperback, £10.99) is a 'biography' of the Moscow landmark in which Catherine Merridale goes behind the walls and towers to reveal the roots of Russian politics and culture. This engaging history is even more pertinent in the Putin era when decisions made inside the Red Fortress still have huge significance. **LB**

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It's pot luck in the search for family's tick tock treasures

THEY are family treasures worth more than £3,000 but were presumed lost forever. That was until the five watches in question were found sealed in a ginger jar set to be sold off with a price tag of just £20.

Owner Steven Bubb was 'gob-smacked' when friend and antiques dealer Phil Sims made the discovery. Mr Bubb had passed on the jar with several other items to be sold following a clear-out.

The watches were last seen by the 58-year-old cider firm boss more than 10 years ago but went missing and were feared lost after fruitless searches through his home in Clent.

Mr Bubb believed they had been misplaced by his mother Joan, who died three years ago, but it appears the Alzheimer's sufferer had put them in the jar to keep them safe and then forgot all about them. The

watches include two that belonged to Mr Bubb's grandfather Henry Holland, one he had while serving in the First World War and the other a 22 carat gold pocket watch. There was also a diamond watch Mr Bubb received from his grandmother Bertha Bubb and a silver chain watch given to him by a relative.

"Phil phoned up and said 'I don't think you realise what you have given me'," said Mr Bubb. "I said what?" and he replied 'all the watches you have been looking for over the years'. I was completely gobsmacked. The watches meant so much and I had been really upset they had gone."

Mr Sims started Sims Vintage Shop, near Belbroughton, this summer and BBC TV's The Antiques Road Trip is visiting as part of the next series.



Sims Vintage Shop boss Phil Sims hands the watches found in the ginger pot back to Steve Bubb

Asbestos link with death of carpenter

A FORMER carpenter died just two weeks after being diagnosed with an illness connected to working with asbestos, an inquest heard.

Leslie Cowley, 78, of Lightwoods Road, Stourbridge, died at New Cross Hospital, in Wolverhampton, with mesothelioma on May 11.

Senior coroner for the Black Country Robin Balmain said a pathologist's report found no asbestos fibres in his system but only a low level exposure to asbestos was enough to cause the disease.

His wife Hazel told the inquest at Smethwick Council House that he had been a self-employed builder and carpenter.

She said: "He never spoke to me about asbestos but he probably used it because he would take pieces out of old buildings."

His son Adrian, said: "It happened so quick. He went in for a heart operation and found this and in two weeks he was gone."

Mr Balmain recorded that Mr Cowley died from an industrial disease.

Fresh call to switch on the speed cameras

SPEED cameras could be turned back on in the Black Country as the new police and crime commissioner pledged to work on cutting down the number of people killed and injured on the roads.

David Jamieson said switching the fixed devices back one was one of his top priorities - despite West Midlands Police facing almost £100million of cuts over the next four years.

The 67-year-old former Labour transport minister said the cameras were proven to reduce fatalities on the roads and promised a fresh look at how pay for the cameras.

Community

But he admitted it was unlikely all cameras would be turned back on, promising only to turn on devices where there had been a casualty and the local community wanted them.

The pledge comes as a trial is being launched by the West Midlands Road Safety Partnership, which includes Birmingham City Council and West Midlands Police, for 12 fixed speed cameras in Birmingham.

Mr Jamieson said: "From 2001 to 2005, I was dealing with a road safety brief, we started to reel out cameras, with local people determining where they wanted to cameras to go."

"Unfortunately one of the first acts of the coalition Government was to stop that. The burden of costs fell with the police and councils and we ultimately saw the cameras switched off."

"Birmingham and So-

By Alex Ross

lithull have said we want cameras back and they are working with officers to see how we can fund those cameras and put them in areas where the local communities say they are needed.

"I am hoping we can eventually find funding to put the cameras back in housing across the West Midlands, including the Black Country, where people need them."

Mr Jamieson said money raised by speeding motorists taking driver awareness courses could be spent on turning on some of the cameras.

He added: "The culture on the road has changed - people now see speeding as unacceptable, when perhaps in the past it wasn't looked on so badly."

"A lot of people are extremely responsible but this is about making it difficult for those going too fast on our roads."

Mr Jamieson took over from the late Bob Jones as police and crime commissioner. He was voted in at a by-election which had a 10.41 per cent turn-out.

Tenders sought for the 'super hospital'

BUSINESSES in the Black Country are being given the chance to tender for work at the planned £353 million Midland Metropolitan Hospital.

Health sector chiefs, procurement bosses and senior design teams from some of the UK's largest construction firms will be in West Bromwich on October 9. They will be looking at what local businesses have to offer them as they construct the 'super hospital' in Smethwick.

The 'Meet The Hospital Bidders' event is being co-hosted by Sandwell Council, Birmingham City Council and Sandwell and West Birmingham Hospitals NHS Trust at the Bethel Convention Centre, Kelvin Way. Some of the construction world's biggest contractors are already signed up to exhibit including Balfour Beatty, Carillion and Skanska. Exhibitors can take a stand for £150. Fill in the form at www.surveymonkey.com/s/WMVH. To register, complete the form and email stephen_massey@sandwell.gov.uk

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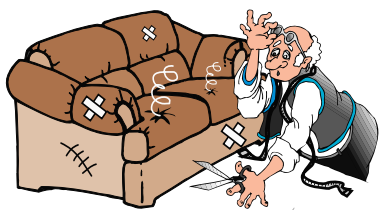


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Singing Lenny is boosting his Rep

DUDLEY comedian turned actor Lenny Henry, currently starring in Rudy's Rare Records at Birmingham Rep, will be talking about his career in a special event at the Centenary Square theatre on Saturday at 5pm, being recorded by BBC Radio 3. Later that day, at 10pm, Lenny turns soul man with Poor White Trash and The Little Big Horns at the Rep Studio.

The Faulty Towers Dining Experience (don't ask for the Waldorf Salad) is being held at the Rep Banqueting Suites until Sunday, which is also the annual Open Day at the city playhouse. The Russian Doctor, based on a remarkable episode from the life of Anton Chekhov, is at the Rep Door tonight, tomorrow and Saturday.

Stand Up & Rock with Jasper and co

COMEDIAN Jasper Carrott is teaming up with some of his Brummie musician mates for the Stand Up & Rock tour, that is coming to Wolverhampton Grand Theatre on Tuesday.

The evening will include stand-up comedy from Jasper plus music from Bev Bevan and Trevor Burton, formerly of 1960s hitmakers The Move, the Rockin' Berries' Geoff Turton and Joy Strachan-Brain from Celtic rockers Quill.

The tour also goes to Dudley Town Hall on October 16, Birmingham Town Hall on October 21, Sutton Coldfield Town Hall on October 30 and 31.

Rising star is on brink of the big time thanks to Saturdays

Faggots, Fizzogs and fun

THE Black Country Living Museum in Dudley has put together its own version of tapas dishes—delicacies such as grorty dick, faggots, gray paes and bacon—to celebrate its Black Country Night at the Tip-top Road museum on Saturday from 6.30 to 10pm.

The evening of food and fun will feature several acts including The Empty Can, who were behind the Black Country anthem I Vow to Thee My Black Country, and internet sensations The Fizzogs, known for their Dancing Grannies comedy routine which went viral. Plus choir Got2Sing.

Musicians such as Brett Huckfield and Linda Simpson will appear alongside a tribute to local legend Dolly Allen, marking 70 years since her first stand-up routine in 1944. James Stevens, from The Empty Can, said: "There will be an outdoor stage so there will be a real festival atmosphere."

Call 0121 520 8054.



James Stevens from The Empty Can and Craig Lewis who is head chef at the museum

FOR Beth Sherburn it took one moment in the spotlight as a child to give birth to a dream.

The nerves subsided as she took to the stage at The Straits Primary School to give her first solo performance. Afterwards, as the audience cheered, she decided to follow her dream of becoming a singer.

Fast forward to today and Beth, from Gornal, is ready to take her big step to stardom. The 23-year-old is celebrating being picked to support girl group The Saturdays on their Greatest Hits tour, arriving at Birmingham's NIA on Monday.

It caps a meteoric rise for Beth over the past two years since being discovered singing while she worked behind the perfume counter at Debenhams at the Merry Hill shopping centre. She caught the attention of John McLaughlin—the man behind Take That, Girls Aloud and Busted—while singing the Michael Bublé hit Christmas to herself in November 2012.

It was a fairytale story for Beth who quit her job to sign a record deal and within weeks was achieving chart success with her debut single, a cover of Duran Duran's Ordinary World which entered the UK Club charts.

"It has been an amazing few months," she said. "When I heard that I was going to be supporting The Saturdays I was so happy."

She can still remember the encouraging words of primary school headteacher Adrian Slack who gave her



Dudley singer Beth Sherburn

the confidence to take on her first solo, a version of Celine Dion's Falling into You.

"He was amazing and really helped me," she said. "When I performed that first time it brought me out of my shell and I immediately knew what I wanted to do and that's be a singer."

Her mother Sarah is a registrar in Dudley and father Graeme works for Dudley Council. Beth, who also attended Ellowes Hall Sports College, said they have always supported her and her sisters Leah and Ellie.

Cats on the prowl again after revamp

HIT musical Cats is in Birmingham before returning to the West End.

The latest revival of Andrew Lloyd Webber's show—now featuring a rapping cat—opened at Birmingham's Hippodrome Theatre this week and runs until September 27 on its last stop before heading to the London Palladium.

Cats first opened in the West End in 1981 and ran for a record-breaking 21 years, playing almost 9,000 performances. On Broadway it ran for 18 years and has been performed in 26 countries.

Zizi Strallen plays Demeter in the current cast, following in the footsteps of her West End star sister Summer Strallen and her aunt Bonnie Langford, also former Cats performers.

Jane is preparing for her Grand gig

SINGER and TV star Jane McDonald brings her latest tour to Wolverhampton Grand Theatre on Wednesday, September 17.

The former cruise ship entertainer who became one of TV's Loose Women will perform a selection of songs from her latest album The Singer of Your Song. She will also sing some of her best-loved tunes from throughout her career, including some of her own compositions.

The show will start at 7.30pm with tickets priced between £19.50 and £34.50. Club singer Jane shot to fame after being featured on docusoap The Cruise. To book tickets call 01902 429212.

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In Tokyo see its most fascinating districts, including the shopping and entertainment mecca of Ginza and the Akihabara electronic town – home to one of the first stores devoted to personal robots. Then to the north of the city there's the scenic area Nikko National Park, relatively unknown outside Japan. Surrounded by breathtaking lakes, waterfalls, forests and hot springs, a visit is made to one of the country's most extraordinary shrines – dedicated to one of its great Shogun warriors.

Kyoto, still considered to be its cultural heart has carefully retained far more of historical Japan than any other major city. With exquisite shrines, temples, Zen gardens and traditional handicrafts, the city is an absolute treasure-trove.

Nara, Japan's first capital, dates back to the eighth century. Here, traditional culture first took root and is famous for its great Buddhist monuments including a large bronze buddha as well as time-honoured festivals.

Hiroshima is forever destined to be synonymous with the world's first use of an atomic bomb and a visit is made to the Peace Memorial Park and museum, with the shattered remains of the nearby dome marking the epicentre of the blast.

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Tumble: The Grand Final (BBC1, 6pm)

Andrea McLean, Emma Samms and John Partridge are among those who have already been voted off the show. Now it's the final, and it's anybody's guess who will win the BBC's inaugural celebrity gymnastics contest and that coveted trophy. Over the past few weeks there's been some impressive work from the likes of ex-Blue Peter presenter Peter Duncan, one of the oldest gymnasts on the show, and actor Bobby Lockwood, one of the youngest. Now the six finalists and their professional partners hope to win over viewers with their floor and aerial trapeze challenges. For the final time this series, host Alex Jones welcomes the judges, Olympic gymnast Nadia Comaneci, Team GB medalist Louis Smith, former Commonwealth Games champion Craig Heap and aerial choreographer Sebastien Stella.

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast. 10.00 Saturday Kitchen Live. 11.30 The Great British Bake Off: An Extra Slice. (R) 12.00 BBC News: Weather. 12.10 Football Focus. 12.50 Saturday Sportsday. 1.00 Live Inictus Games. The third day of the event. 4.30 Final Score. 5.10 Celebrity Mastermind. (R) 5.40 BBC News: Regional News: Weather.

6.00 Tumble: The Grand Final. The six finalists perform a series of routines and challenges, including the dreaded vault, in the hope that viewers will choose them as the winner. Last in the series.

7.30 Doctor Who. So far, the latest incarnation of the gallivanting Gallifreyan has dealt with steampunk-style androids in Victorian London, delved into the inner workings of a Dalek and forged an unlikely alliance with Robin Hood. This week, during a trip with Clara to the end of the universe, he will come face to face with something or someone that chills him to the bone. But what could frighten a man who has spent most of his very long life battling the galaxy's most terrifying aliens? Could it be ghosts from the Time Lord's past and future that send shivers down his spine? And what exactly happens when the Doctor is alone and afraid? Sci-fi drama, starring Peter Capaldi, Jenna Coleman and Samuel Anderson.

8.20 The National Lottery: In It to Win It. Dale Winfield hosts the quiz in which five contestants answer questions to scoop a big cash prize. Includes the Lotto and Thunderball draws with Gabby Roslin.

9.10 Last Night of the Proms. Sakari Oram takes to the podium to conduct the concluding part of this year's Proms finale, featuring violinist Janine Jansen and baritone Roderick Williams. Highlights of the Last Night celebrations from all four parks can be seen via the red button.

10.35 BBC News: Weather. 10.50 Match of the Day. Gary Lineker presents highlights of the latest Premier League clashes, including Arsenal v Manchester City, Chelsea v Swansea City and Liverpool v Aston Villa; National Lottery Update.

12.25 The Football League Show. 1.45 Weather for the Week Ahead. 1.50 BBC News.

BBC2

6.00 Film: The Falcon in Danger. (1943) 7.10 Film: The Falcon in Mexico. (1944) 8.30 Film: Home on the Range. (2004) 9.30 The Trials of Life. (R) 10.20 The Trials of Life. (R) 11.10 The Trials of Life. (R) 12.00 Rick Stein's German Bite. (R) 1.00 Judi Dench: Talking Pictures. 1.35 Film: The Importance of Being Earnest. (2002) Oscar Wilde comedy, starring Rupert Everett and Colin Firth. 3.05 Escape to the Country. (R) 4.05 Tropic of Capricorn. (R) 5.05 Alex Polizzi: The Fixer. (R)

6.05 Flog It! Paul Martin helps individuals make money selling their antiques at auction in William, Greater Manchester. With experts Anita Manning and Kate Bliss.

7.00 Dad's Army. Captain Mainwaring lets Fraser take charge of the platoon, gambling that a taste of authority will give him a more responsible attitude. (R)

7.30 Last Night of the Proms. In the first of two programme tonight, Katie Derham introduces the final concert of the season in the 120th year of the classical music event at London's Royal Albert Hall. The programme includes William Walton's Popular Song from Facade and Malcolm Arnold's Peterloo Overture – its first performance in a new choral version with lyrics by Tim Rice. Plus, the Strauss anniversary celebrations conclude with Tchaikovsky. Coverage continues on BBC1 at 9.10pm.

9.00 The Invictus Games. Action from the third day of the Paralympic-style multi-sport event from London, which is designed for wounded soldiers.

10.00 QI XL. Stephen Fry hosts an extended edition of the peculiar panel quiz with Sandi Toksvig, Bill Bailey, Susan Calman and Alan Davies answering questions on places that start with J. (R)

10.45 TOTP2. Presenter Mark Radcliffe travels through the archives, unearthing clips of Mott the Hoople, Terry Wogan, the Spice Girls, Blondie and the Smiths. (R)

11.45 Film: Summer. (2008) A middle-aged man learns his childhood best friend is dying and is forced to confront past mistakes that may have ruined several lives. Drama, with Robert Carlyle and Steve Evets.

1.05 Film: Female Agents. (2008) 2.55 This Is BBC Two.

ITV

6.00 CITV: Fort Boyard Ultimate Spot. 6.25 Pat & Stan. (R) 6.35 Pat & Stan. (R) 6.40 Dino Dan. (R) 6.50 Dino Dan. (R) 7.05 Animals. (R) 7.10 Animals. (R) 7.20 Om Nom Stories. (R) 7.25 Sooty. (R) 7.55 Matt Hatter Chronicles. 8.20 Nerds & Monsters. (R) 8.30 Chowder. (R) 8.45 Chowder. (R) 9.00 The Aquabats Super Show. (R)

9.25 ITV News. 9.30 The Hungry Sailors. 9.35 Murder, She Wrote. (R) 11.20 ITV News: Weather. 11.30 Film: Columbo: Now You See Him. (1976) 1.15 Catchphrase. (R) 2.00 All Star Family Fortunes. (R) 3.00 The X Factor. (R) 4.00 Film: The Queen. (2006) Oscar-winning biographical drama, starring Helen Mirren.

6.05 Regional Programme: Weather. 6.15 ITV News: Weather.

6.30 You've Been Framed! Surreal comedy from the mind of Harry Hill. Inspired by viewers' videos. Holly Willoughby's husband risks everything to catch a glimpse of her in the nude. (R)

7.00 The Chase: Celebrity Special. Strictly Come Dancing judge Len Goodman, former Olympic swimmer Mark Foster, model Amy Willerton and Eternal's Kelle Bryan take on a trivia expert.

8.00 The X Factor. The acts who wowed the judges at the closed-room auditions now face round two – appearing not just in front of judges Simon Cowell, Cheryl Fernandez-Versini, Mel B and Louis Walsh, but also an audience of nearly 5,000 people at the more intimidating setting of Wembley Arena. Dermot O'Leary offers words of encouragement backstage as well as a shoulder to cry on for those who fail to impress.

9.20 Through the Keyhole. Jimmy Carr, Natalie Anderson and Dave Berry make up this week's panel as Keith Lemon tours mystery homes and challenges them to guess the identities of the famous occupants.

10.20 ITV News: Weather. 10.40 Film: United 93. (2006) Fact-based drama about the fourth plane hijacked in the September 11 attacks, which was stopped from reaching its target by the passengers. With Christian Clemenson and Trish Gates.

12.35 Jackpot247. 3.30 The Jeremy Kyle Show USA. (R) 3.40 ITV Nightscreen.

CHANNEL 4

6.10 NFL: Rush Zone. 6.40 Trans World Sport. 7.35 The Grid. 8.00 The Morning Line. 9.00 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) 9.30 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) 9.55 Frasier. (R) 10.25 Frasier. (R) 10.55 The Big Bang Theory. (R) 11.20 The Big Bang Theory. (R) 11.50 The Big Bang Theory. (R) 12.15 The Simpsons. (R) 12.45 The Simpsons. (R) 1.10 Gadget Man. (R) 1.40 Channel 4 Racing.

Coverage of live racing from Doncaster and Chester. 4.10 Come Dine with Me. (R) 4.40 Come Dine with Me. (R) 5.10 Come Dine with Me. (R) 5.45 Come Dine with Me. (R)

6.15 Come Dine with Me. Mental-health nurse Lloyd Cast hosts the final dinner party from the West Midlands and has planned a chilled evening to allow his food to take centre stage. (R)

6.45 Channel 4 News.

7.05 Sarah Beeny's Double Your House for Half the Money. The property expert meets families pooling their resources to live together under one roof, including the Osbornes from Essex, who want to create a modern mansion for £150,000. (R)

8.00 Grand Designs. Product designer Rebecca Sturrock has returned to her family home in Cornwall with her partner Greg Kewish and a highly ambitious plan. Together they hope to transform a small, damp bungalow into a cutting-edge home to share with their twin three-year-old daughters – all for just £80,000. The design is radical – to reinforce the walls of the old property and add a new living space on top to take advantage of the views. (R)

9.00 Peter Kay: Live & Back on Nights! Part Two. Part two of two. The comedian provides a behind-the-scenes look at his 18 months on the road throughout 2010 and 2011, playing 140 stand-up shows for 1.2 million fans. (R)

10.00 Film: Sleepy Hollow. (1999) A sceptical 18th-century detective takes on a headless horseman who decapitates his victims. Tim Burton's gothic horror, with Johnny Depp, Christina Ricci and Miranda Richardson.

12.05 Alan Carr: Chatty Man. With Jack Whitehall, Jon Richardson, Matt Forde and Kasabian. (R) 1.05 Film: The Darjeeling Limited. (2007) 2.40 Homeland. (R) 3.35 Hollyoaks. 5.40 Street Velodrome.

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake! 10.00 Access. 10.05 The Secret Life of Pets. (R) 10.30 Police Interceptors. (R) 11.25 Ultimate Police Interceptors. (R) 12.25 Police Interceptors. (R) 1.25 Film: The Big Country. (1958) Western, starring Gregory Peck. 4.40 Film: Wyatt Earp. (1994) The story of the legendary lawman, from his youth to his days as deputy marshal of Tombstone and the gunfight at the OK Corral. Western, starring Kevin Costner and Dennis Quaid. Edited for violence and language.

8.10 World War I in Colour. Actor Robert Powell narrates the story of the global conflict, told using colourised archive footage, state-of-the-art terrain mapping and cutting-edge computer graphics and based on government papers and previously classified files. The first edition examines how political and economic chaos in the aftermath of the First World War allowed Hitler in Germany, Mussolini in Italy and ultra-nationalists in imperial Japan to seize power, with the failure of Britain, France and the United States to confront initial acts of aggression being seen as signs of weakness. (R)

9.15 5 News Weekend.

9.20 Most Shocking Reality TV Moments. A celebration of the nation's long-running love affair with reality TV, showcasing the 50 most memorable moments from some of the best-loved shows such as TOWIE, Jersey Shore and Made in Chelsea. The bumper countdown includes the time George Galloway came over all feline on Celebrity Big Brother, Gillian McKeth's dramatic fainting episode on I'm a Celebrity Get Me Out of Here!, and Bobby Davro's belly flop on The Games. Featuring contributions by Calum Best, Charlotte Crosby, Amy Childs, Paul Darian, Janice Dickinson, Dane Bowers and Vanessa Feltz.

12.15 SuperCasino. 3.10 Once Upon a Time. Cora sends Hook to retrieve the magic compass, while Rumpelstiltskin and Regina concoct a plan to destroy the portal and kill anyone who tries to use it to reach Storybrooke. (R) 4.00 House Doctor. Ann Maurice heads for Sandhurst, Berkshire, where she offers advice to the owner of a four-bedroom house that has been left with a distinctly unfinished feeling. (R) 4.25 Make It Big. (R) 5.15 Angels of Jarm. (R) 5.40 Roary the Racing Car. (R)

DIGITAL

BBC Three 7.00 Great Movie Mistakes V: Revenge of the Fifth 7.15 Pop's Greatest Dance Crazes 7.45 Film: Streetdance (2010) 8.15 Film: Tropic Thunder (2008) 10.55 Family Guy 1.35 Seann Walsh's Late Night Comedy Spectacular 2014 2.30 Sexy Beasts 3.00 Fried 3.25 Parents' Evening 3.50 Close

BBC Four 7.00 Human Planet 8.00 Survivors: Nature's Indestructible Creatures 9.00 Crimes of Passion 10.25 Seven Ages of Starlight 11.55 Chas & Dave: Last Orders 12.55 London Songs at the BBC 1.55 Human Planet 2.55 Survivors: Nature's Indestructible Creatures 3.55 Close

ITV2 11.15 The X Factor 1.35 Take Me Out 2.50 You've Been Framed! Top 100 Weddings 3.45 Funnies Ever You've Been Framed! 4.50 You've Been Framed! 5.15 Film: Casper (1995) 7.10 Film: Dungeons and Dragons (2000) 9.20 The X Factor 10.20 Celebrity Juice 11.05 The X Factor 12.20 The X Factor 1.20 Plets 2.05 Two and a Half Men 2.50 Teleshopping 5.50 ITV2 Nightscreen

ITV3 12.40 Lewis 2.50 A Touch of Frost 4.55 Inspector Morse 7.00 Lewis 9.00 Midsummer Murders 11.00 Bomb Girls 12.05 Film: Till Death Us Do Part (1969) 2.00 ITV3 Nightscreen 2.30 Teleshopping

ITV4 11.55 Cycling: Tour of Britain 1.00 Cycling: Tour of Britain Live Stage seven from Camberley to Brighton. 4.00 Storage Wars 4.25 British Touring Car Championship Highlights 6.00 FIA Formula 1 Championship 7.00 Cycling: Vuelta a Espana 8.00 Cycling: Tour of Britain 9.00 Film: Live and Let Die (1973) 11.30 Film: The Boat That Rocked (2009) 2.05 Cycling: Vuelta a Espana 3.00 Teleshopping 3.30 The Store 4.30 Teleshopping

E4 11.30 Melissa & Joey 12.30 Film: Coraline (2009) 2.35 How I Met Your Mother 3.30 The Big Bang Theory 5.30 Made in Chelsea NYC 6.35 The 100 7.30 Brooklyn Nine-Nine 8.00 The Big Bang Theory 9.00 Film: Die Hard (1988) 11.45 The Big Bang Theory 12.45 Virtually Famous 1.35 Almost Royal 2.10 How I Met Your Mother 2.55 The Ricky Gervais Show 4.15 Glee 4.55 Desperate Housewives

Film4 11.00 Gift Horse (1952) 1.30 Star Trek: The Motion Picture (1979) 3.35 The Son of Robin Hood (1958) 5.10 Mr Popper's Penguins (2011) 7.00 Stormbreaker (2006) 9.00 Kingdom of Heaven (2005) 12.40 Saw IV (2007) 2.25 Lake Tahoe (2008) 4.00 Close

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CHOICE



Stephen Mulhern

Sunday Night at the Palladium (ITV, 7pm)

New series. After its initial run all those years ago between 1955 and 1967, followed by a brief revival during 1973 and 1974, the variety show makes its much-anticipated return with some of the UK's best-loved comedians and entertainers performing inside the West End theatre, including Rob Brydon, Jimmy Carr and Bradley Walsh. First up, though, presenting duties are handed over to entertainer Stephen Mulhern, who will be compering the show in front of the 2,200-strong audience. Guests include singing superstar Bryan Adams, girl band Little Mix, comic Alan Davies, speciality act Les Beaux Freres and quick-change duo David & Dania. Plus, tenor Alfie Boe, who will be performing Bring Him Home from Les Misérables.

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast. 7.25 Match of the Day. (R) 9.00 The Andrew Marr Show. 10.00 Sunday Morning Live. 11.00 Sunday Politics. 12.15 MOTD2 Extra. With Mark Chapman and the Match of the Day team. 1.00 BBC News; Weather. 1.15 Live Inictus Games. The fourth and final day of the event. 4.15 Points of View. 4.30 The Great British Bake Off. (R) 5.30 Songs of Praise.

6.05 Deadly on a Mission: Pole to Pole. Steve Backshall and the crew reach the remote island of South Georgia, before travelling to Antarctica, their final destination, where the naturalist dives with a leopard seal.

6.35 BBC News; Regional News; Weather.

7.00 Countryfile. Jules Hudson is in Norfolk, where he gets privileged access to the Ministry of Defence training grounds – including a purpose-built Afghan village in the heart of the British countryside. Anita Rani explores the history of the humble shepherd's hut, and Charlotte Smith investigates how there are still large parts of rural Britain with little or no mobile phone coverage – and what is being done to remedy the situation. Shauna Lowry and Helen Skelton meet the teams representing Scotland and Wales in this year's One Man and His Dog competition. Including Weather for the Week Ahead.

8.00 Antiques Roadshow. New series. Fiona Bruce and the team visit Hillsborough Castle in Northern Ireland, where the experts advise the Queen about a curious collection of items in the royal residence.

9.00 The Village. Bill Gibby returns to the village as the new councillor for Sheffield and reveals his plans for a reservoir, while Martha and Eyre make plans for the future. Last in the series.

10.00 BBC News; Regional News; Weather.

10.30 Match of the Day 2. Mark Chapman presents highlights of Manchester United v Queens Park Rangers at Old Trafford in the Premier League.

11.20 Film: She's Out of My League. (2010) Romantic comedy, with Jay Baruchel, Alice Eve and Lindsay Sloane.

1.00 Weather for the Week Ahead. 1.05 BBC News.

BBC2

6.05 Countryfile. (R) 7.00 Monty Don's Italian Gardens. 8.00 World of Animals. (R) 8.30 The Beechgrove Garden. 9.00 The Football League Show. (R) 10.20 Saturday Kitchen Best Bites. 11.50 Lorraine Pascale: How to Be a Better Cook. (R) 12.20 Paul Hollywood's Pies & Puds. (R) 12.50 Film: Tycoon. (1947) Romantic drama, starring John Wayne and Laraine Day. 2.55 Escape to the Country. (R) 3.40 Flag It! 4.40 Equator. (R) 5.40 Penguins on a Plane: Great Animal Moves. (R)

6.40 Film: StreetDance 2. (2012) Premiere. A dancer tries to put a humiliating defeat in a contest behind him by assembling an international dance crew to compete in a high-profile European event. Drama, starring Falk Hentschel, Tom Contil and Sofia Boutella.

8.00 The Invictus Games – Closing Concert. For the past four days, wounded, sick and injured servicemen and women from across the world have been competing in a series of sporting events. But now the last medal has been won, it's time for them to unwind – and there's a host of stars lining up to help them celebrate their remarkable achievements at the Invictus Games Closing Concert. Clare Balding and Greg James present performances from Foo Fighters, Kaiser Chiefs, Ellie Goulding, Rizzle Kicks, Ryan Adams, the Vamps and Diversity, as well as a couple of acts for whom the Games may have an extra special meaning – former soldier James Blunt and the Military Wives Choirs. Plus, the athletes will also be given their moment in the spotlight during a medalion ceremony paying tribute to all the inspirational participants.

10.15 Mock the Week. Host Dara O Briain and regulars Hugh Dennis and Andy Parsons are joined by Ed Byrne, Gary Delaney, Katherine Ryan and Josh Widdicombe for the topical comedy quiz. (R)

10.45 Film: Blade Runner: The Final Cut. (1982) A detective is sent to kill four renegade androids searching for their creator in a bleak future Los Angeles. Ridley Scott's sci-fi thriller, with Harrison Ford and Rutger Hauer.

12.40 Dangerous Days: Making Blade Runner. 2.20 Sign Zone: Countryfile. (R) 3.10 Holby City. (R) 4.10 This Is BBC Two.

ITV

6.00 CITV: Fort Boyard Ultimate Challenge. 6.25 Pat & Stan. (R) 6.35 Pat & Stan. (R) 6.40 Dino Dan. (R) 6.50 Dino Dan. (R) 7.05 Animals. (R) 7.10 Animals. (R) 7.20 Om Nom Stories. (R) 7.25 Sooty. (R) 7.40 Mr Bean: The Animated Series. (R) 7.55 Ultimate Spider-Man. 8.20 Nerds & Monsters. (R) 8.30 Big Time Rush. 9.00 The Aquabats Super Show. 9.25 Dickinson's Real Deal. (R) 10.25 Murder, She Wrote. (R) 11.25 ITV News; Weather. 11.30 Film: Carry On Don't Lose Your Head. (1966) 1.15 The X Factor. (R) 2.30 Film: Always. (1989) Romantic fantasy, with Richard Dreyfuss and Holly Hunter. 4.45 Midsomer Murders. (R)

6.35 Regional Programme; Weather.

6.45 ITV News; Weather.

7.00 Sunday Night at the Palladium. New series. Variety show from the West End theatre, featuring a different host each week. Stephen Mulhern welcomes Alfie Boe, Little Mix, Alan Davies and Bryan Adams to the stage.

8.00 The X Factor. Having proved themselves in front of the panel, the hopefuls now perform in front of an audience of almost 5,000 as the Wembley Arena auditions continue. Dermot O'Leary presents.

9.00 The Suspicions of Mr Whicher: The Ties That Bind. Hired by West Country landowner Sir Henry Coverley, Whicher takes on a seemingly straightforward case of infidelity, following his client's young wife as she meets her lover in London. However, when a key witness mysteriously fails to attend the divorce hearing, the investigation takes a dark twist, leading the private inquiry agent into the heart of the English countryside and to the most disturbing and destructive of secrets. Feature-length Victorian crime drama, starring Paddy Considine, with Helen Bradbury, Risteard Cooper and Alex Robertson.

11.00 ITV News; Weather.

11.20 Premiership Rugby Union. Highlights from the second weekend of the season, with matches including Harlequins v Saracens, Exeter Chiefs v Leicester Tigers and Wasps v Northampton Saints.

12.20 The Store. 2.55 Motorsport UK. 3.40 British Superbike Championship Highlights. 4.35 ITV Nightscreen. 5.05 The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R)

CHANNEL 4

6.35 NFL: The American Football Show. (R) 7.30 British F3. 8.00 World Superbikes. 8.30 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) 9.00 Frasier. (R) 9.30 Sunday Brunch. 12.30 George Clarke's Amazing Spaces. (R) 1.30 The Big Bang Theory. (R) 2.00 The Big Bang Theory. (R) 2.55 The Simpsons. (R) 3.30 Film: Star Trek: Generations. (1994) Sci-fi adventure sequel, starring Patrick Stewart and William Shatner. 5.45 Deal or No Deal.

6.40 Channel 4 News.

7.00 Richard Attenborough: A Life. A tribute to the late actor, director and social activist who died last month at the age of 90. Attenborough made his name with stand-out performances on the silver screen, including his chilling portrayal of hitman Pinkie Brown in Brighton Rock in 1947, before appearing as part of the all-star ensemble cast of The Great Escape in 1963. He later turned his attention to roles behind the camera with his Oscar-winning 1982 biopic Gandhi, before winning over a new generation of fans in the 1990s with memorable on-screen turns as eccentric theme park developer John Hammond in Jurassic Park and Kris "Santa Klaus" Kringle in the Miracle on 34th Street remake.

8.00 The Real Noah's Ark: Secret History. Inspired by his discovery of an ancient tablet shedding light on the biblical tale, Irving Finkel and a team of boat builders set out to construct a real Noah's ark.

9.00 Houdini. The legendary illusionist and escape artist conducts an epic battle against the spiritualists whose practices he believes to be fraudulent. As the 20th century progresses and a more modern era overtakes the industrial age, he finds himself forced to come to terms with his new place in a fast-changing world. Conclusion of the two-part drama, starring Adrien Brody in the title role.

10.50 Film: Jennifer's Body. (2009) A cheerleader is possessed by a flesh-eating demon and systematically seduces and devours the male population of her high school. Comedy horror, with Megan Fox and Amanda Seyfried.

11.45 American Football Live. 5.00 British F3. (R) 5.30 Kirstie's Vintage Gems. (R) 5.35 Hugh's 3 Good Things: Best Bites. 5.45 Deal or No Deal. (R)

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake! Peppa Pig. 6.05 Roary the Racing Car. (R) 6.15 Angelina Ballerina. (R) 6.30 Bubble Guppies. (R) 6.45 The Mr Men Show. (R) 7.00 Chloe's Closet. (R) 7.15 Olly the Little White Van. (R) 7.20 Bananas in Pyjamas. (R) 7.35 Make Way for Noddy. (R) 7.55 Little Princess. (R) 8.10 The Adventures of Bottle Top Bill and His Best Friend Corky. (R) 8.25 Wanda and the Alien. 8.45 Rupert Bear. (R) 9.00 Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom. (R) 9.15 Jelly Jam. (R) 9.30 LazyTown. (R) 10.00 Access. (R) 10.05 Police Interceptors. (R) 11.05 Police Interceptors. (R) 12.05 Police Interceptors. (R) 1.05 Film: The Journey of Natty Gann. (1985) Disney adventure, starring Meredith Salenger. 3.00 Film: What a Girl Wants. (2003) Comedy, starring Amanda Bynes. 5.00 Film: Willy Wonka & the Chocolate Factory. (1971) Musical fantasy, with Gene Wilder.

7.05 5 News Weekend.

7.10 Film: The League of Extraordinary Gentlemen. (2003) Fearless hunter Allan Quatermain teams up with a host of other characters from Victorian literature – including Captain Nemo, the Invisible Man, Tom Sawyer and Dr Jekyll – to put a stop to the nefarious Fantom's evil plot to bring about a world war. Fantasy adventure, based on Alan Moore's comic-book series, starring Sean Connery, Shane West, Stuart Townsend and Tony Curran. Edited for daytime broadcast. Part of Movie Icons Day.

9.00 Film: The Rock. (1996) A renegade general and his crack team of mercenaries take over the abandoned fortress prison of Alcatraz and threaten San Francisco with toxic nerve-gas rockets to extort a massive ransom. To break their stranglehold on the city, the FBI sends in a chemical weapons expert and a jailed SAS veteran. Action thriller, with Sean Connery, Nicolas Cage and Ed Harris. Edited for language. Part of Movie Icons Day.

11.45 Film: Lord of War. (2005) A New York criminal gains access to a vast supply of Soviet weaponry and become one of the world's most notorious arms dealers. Thriller, starring Nicolas Cage and Ethan Hawke. Edited for language.

1.50 SuperCasino. 3.10 Once Upon a Time. (R) 4.00 House Doctor. (R) 4.25 Make It Big. (R) 5.15 Moments of Jarm. (R) 5.40 Roary the Racing Car. (R)

DIGITAL

BBC Three

7.00 Top Gear 8.00 Doctor Who 8.50 Great Movie Mistakes 2: The Sequel 9.00 Russell Howard's Good News 10.00 Family Guy 10.45 Cuckoo 11.15 Siblings 11.45 American Dad! 12.30 Seve Beasts 1.00 Seann Walsh's Late Night Comedy Spectacular 2014 2.00 Cuckoo 2.30 Siblings 3.00 The Human Tissue Squad 4.00 Close

BBC Four

7.00 Vatican – The Hidden World 8.00 Byzantium: A Tale of Three Cities 9.00 British Art at War: Bomber, Sicker and Nash 10.00 The Sky at Night 10.30 The Comet's Tale 11.30 Heavy Metal Britannia 1.00 Deep Purple – Made in Japan 2.00 Heavy Metal Britannia at the BBC 2.30 British Art at War: Bomber, Sicker and Nash 3.30 Close

ITV2

12.00 America's Got Talent 1.45 Funniest Ever You've Been Framed? 2.45 Film: Cats & Dogs (2001) 4.30 The X Factor 5.45 The X Factor 6.45 Film: Twister (1996) 9.00 The Xtra Factor 10.00 Bad Bridesmaid 11.00 The X Factor 12.00 The Xtra Factor 1.05 Fake Reaction 1.40 Conor Maynard: The Hot Desk 1.50 The Big Reunion 2014 2.45 Teleshopping 5.45 ITV2 Nightscreen

ITV3

12.15 Inspector Morse 2.20 Film: Columbo: Fade in to Murder (1978) 3.55 Film: Carry On Loving (1970) 5.45 Wildlife 6.55 Lewis 9.00 The Best of the Royal Variety 11.00 Film: Dial M for Murder (1954) 12.15 William and Mary 2.05 Judge Judy 2.45 World Kitchen 3.10 ITV3 Nightscreen 3.40 Emmerdale

ITV4

11.50 The Motorbike Show 12.55 Cycling: Vuelta a Espana 1.55 Cycling: Tour of Britain 3.00 Cycling: Tour of Britain Live. Coverage of the second part of the eighth stage of the race. 5.55 Police, Camera, Action! 7.00 River Monsters 8.00 Premiership Rugby Union 9.00 Cycling: Tour of Britain 10.00 Cycling: Vuelta a Espana 11.00 Film: Shootout (1971) 1.00 Hell on Wheels 1.55 Cycling: Vuelta a Espana 2.45 ITV4 Nightscreen 3.00 Teleshopping 3.30 The Store 4.30 Teleshopping

E4

12.30 Made in Chelsea NYC 1.30 How I Met Your Mother 2.30 Suburgatory 3.00 The Mindy Project 3.30 New Girl 3.55 The Big Bang Theory 4.55 The 100 5.55 Rude (ish) Tube 6.50 Film: Imagine That (2009) 9.00 Made in Chelsea NYC 10.00 Almost Royal 10.35 The Big Bang Theory 11.35 Virtually Famous 12.20 Rude Tube 1.25 Rules of Engagement 2.20 The Ricky Gervais Show 2.50 The Cleveland Show 3.10 Hollywood

Film4

11.00 Yellow Sky (1948) 1.00 Ladyhawke (1985) 3.20 Taxi (2004) 5.10 Five Children and It (2004) 6.55 Big Miracle (2012) 9.00 The Guard (2011) 11.00 Source Code (2011) 12.35 Rust and Bone (2012) 3.05 Close



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MONDAY
The River Wild, Channel 5, 11pm
 A headstrong white-water rafting expert embarks on a holiday with her family, but their fun comes to an abrupt end when two killers show up. The fugitives' only escape route from the law is down a raging river, so they take the woman and her son hostage to act as guides. Meanwhile, her husband desperately tries to keep track from the riverbank, waiting for his opportunity to launch a rescue attempt. Action thriller, with Meryl Streep, Kevin Bacon, David Strathairn and Joseph Mazzello. (1994)

TUESDAY
Mystery Woman: In the Shadows, Channel 5, 3.15pm
 Bookshop-owning sleuth Samantha Kinsey attends a writers' convention, where she befriends a former KGB agent who has launched a new career as a mystery author. When her new Russian friend is suddenly murdered, Samantha resolves to track down the killer. Whodunit, starring Kellie Martin, Malachi Throne and Nina Siemaszko. (2007)



Hot Fuzz, Friday, ITV, 10.40pm

WEDNESDAY
Win a Date with Tad Hamilton!, BBC1, 11.50pm
 A screen idol's reputation is damaging his career, so his manager comes up with a plan to rehabilitate the actor's public image by giving ordinary women across America the chance to win a date with him. The prize eventually goes to a supermarket checkout girl – much to the annoyance of her best friend, who has secretly carried a torch for her for years. Romantic comedy, with Kate Bosworth, Topher Grace and Josh Duhamel. (2004)

THURSDAY
Goodnight for Justice, Channel 5, 3.15pm
 A boy witnesses his parents being murdered by bandits, and grows up to be a judge with the intention of seeing the killers pay for their crimes. When he finally tracks down the men responsible, his desire for revenge drives him toward breaking his oath to uphold the law. Western, with Luke Perry and Lara Gilchrist. (2011)

FRIDAY
Hot Fuzz, ITV, 10.40pm
 An overly zealous, by-the-book London policeman is reassigned to a sleepy country village where the crime rate is virtually zero. But just as the officer's new environment begins to chafe, a grisly series of so-called accidents gives him reason to suspect a conspiracy is afoot. Action comedy, with Simon Pegg. (2007)

Cilla spots her chance to live the dream

After winning a Bafta for her performances as the wife of a Great Train Robber in Mrs Biggs, you might think that starring in TV biopics held no fear for Sheridan Smith.

But then, not many people were familiar with the real Charmian Biggs, whereas Smith's latest role sees her playing one of the most famous women on British telly – Cilla Black.

So, it's not surprising the actress admits to being apprehensive about taking it on. She says: "The drama is slightly more daunting because Cilla is so well known. And it's daunting thinking what Cilla will make of your performance."

Even though she knows viewers will be comparing her to the genuine article, it seems Sheridan has resisted the temptation to slip in a lorra, lorra catchphrases.

"The director Paul Whittington and I talked for a long time. We didn't want it to be a mimic of Cilla. I'm not an impersonator and that would be

doing her a disservice. It's done with much more respect than that."

Of course, it also helps that when the three-part drama opens in the early 1960s, the artist formerly known as Priscilla White is still a secretary with a sideline in performing on Liverpool's club scene alongside such local sensations as the Big Three, Kingsize Taylor and a certain bunch of hopefuls called the Beatles.

Sheridan says: "One of the great things about telling this story is that some of the younger generation have no idea about Cilla's singing career. They know Blind Date and Surprise Surprise onwards. This is the time of Merseybeat – what an exciting era."

Writer Jeff Pope also explores the singer's relationships with two of the most important men in her life – her future husband Bobby, and her manager, Brian Epstein.

Sheridan says: "Cilla wrote something in her autobiography which I thought was such a lovely thing... Bobby said 'Every

successful woman needs a good man behind her'. When Cilla said she thought it was the other way around, Bobby replied, 'So? Why shouldn't we break the mould?'"

However, it seems she didn't get off to the most promising start with the man who would go on to be the love of her life. When the would-be pop star first meets Bobby (Aneurin Barnard), he tells her he's in the music business, so she's put out to later discover he's lied about his job, and that even his flash car is hired.

Fortunately, he gets a second chance to prove his worth, but will Cilla get off to a better start with impresario Epstein (Ed Stoppard) when she lands an audition?

It seems there's just one person's approval that Sheridan is hoping for – Cilla's.

"We went to dinner and I was so nervous. When you've grown up watching someone on telly you just hope they're going to be as nice as they come across. And she was. She gave me her blessing and I just hope she likes it."



Sheridan Smith stars in Cilla, Monday, ITV, 9pm

BEST OF THE REST

MONDAY
Jon Richardson Grows Up Channel 4, 10pm
 New series. The 8 Out of 10 Cats team captain gets to grips with adult issues, from mortgages and marriage to parenthood. In the first of three editions, he embarks on a road trip with fellow comedian Matt Forde to uncover different attitudes to relationships. They start off by meeting a couple who have been married for 54 years to see if they can provide answers. The boys then encounter people who contest the norm when it comes to co-habiting and marriage, such as swingers, and receive an invitation to the wedding of a couple who have six marriages between them. Jon also arranges for Matt to visit one of the UK's leading matchmakers, which leads to two dates in one night.

TUESDAY
Live UEFA Champions League ITV, 7.30pm
 Liverpool get their first Champions League campaign since the 2009/10 season under way when they entertain Ludogorets Razgrad in this Group B encounter at Anfield. While the Reds' second-place finish in the Premier League last term ensured they did not have to participate in the play-offs, the visitors qualified in dramatic style. With their tie against Steaua Bucharest heading to a penalty

shoot-out, the Bulgarian champions looked destined for an early exit from the competition as their goalkeeper had been sent off after all the substitutes had been used. However, right-back Cosmin Moti proved to be an unlikely hero, saving two spot-kicks and converting one himself to help his team progress. Despite their opponents' heroics in that contest, the Reds will see anything less than a win tonight as a major setback, with tough fixtures to follow against holders Real Madrid and Swiss champions FC Basel.

WEDNESDAY
This World: Ireland's Lost Babies BBC2, 9pm
 When Martin Sixsmith wrote The Lost Child of Philomena Lee, it inspired 2013's Bafta-winning movie Philomena, and generated fresh interest in the story of the woman who was forced by the Catholic Church to give up her son Anthony for adoption. In this film, Martin investigates the Irish Catholic Church's role in a trade that saw thousands of 'illegitimate' children taken from their mothers and sent abroad. In Ireland and America, he hears the touching stories of lives that were changed for ever. He also discovers some of the tragic consequences

which occurred when prospective parents were not properly vetted, and witnesses the struggle of a mother and child separated by continents who hope to find each other before time runs out.

THURSDAY
Who Do You Think You Are? BBC1, 9pm
 Inspector George Gently and The Professionals star Martin Shaw is the latest celebrity to go in search of his roots, and he's particularly interested in finding out more about his paternal grandfather Edwin, who was rarely spoken about by his family. The actor has only one photo of his ancestor, which shows him aged roughly 17 and wearing a military uniform. By zooming in on the picture, Martin's brother was able to identify their grandfather's badge, which



Who Do You Think You Are?, Thursday, BBC1, 9pm

suggests he was in the Royal Marines. Now, by meeting with a military historian, Martin tries to fill in the rest of the story, and in the process learns more about Edwin's role in defending Birmingham against German air assaults during the Second World War.

Scotland Decides BBC1, 10.35pm
 Huw Edwards presents live coverage from Glasgow as the votes are counted in the Scottish independence referendum, with BBC political editor Nick Robinson and Scotland 2014's Sarah Smith on hand to provide expert commentary and Jeremy Vine analysing how the vote is building up throughout the night with the help of his virtual-reality graphics. Political correspondents will be live at every count, Andrew Neil will have the reaction from Westminster and teams in Wales and Northern Ireland will discuss the impact of the decision.

Friday
Storage: Flog the Lot! Channel 5, 8pm
 Professional dealers meet for a secret auction at an empty warehouse to bid against each other for a series of mystery items in four storage lots, before attempting to turn a profit with their winnings. Will anyone be caught out by a red herring and risk losing up to £25,000 of their own money?

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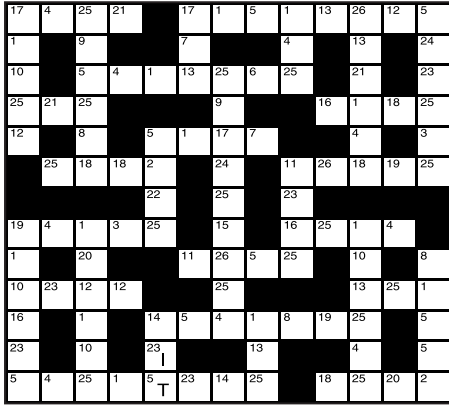
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Codeword

Each number in the grid represents a different letter of the alphabet and every letter of the alphabet is used. Use the given letter(s) to the right of the main grid to start you off.



1	14
2	15
3	16
4	17
5	18
6	19
7	20
8	21
9	22
10	23
11	24
12	25
13	26

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION:

W	Y	R	U	I	C	O	T	X	G	A	P	F
N	M	V	K	S	J	Z	L	Q	D	H	E	B

Double Crossword

Choose either quick or cryptic clues - both fit the same grid.

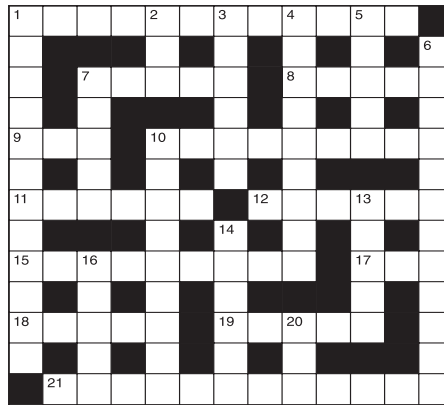
Cryptic Clues:

Across

- Reserve for assignment to a particular team? (3,2,3,4)
- Such spirits help us to see better (5)
- Hide the hundred left (5)
- Tune keeping the lungs working? (3)
- Grows when folded (9)
- Occurrences that provide openings out East (6)
- Conclude it could be somewhat delicate (6)
- Realise it could be a Hebrew (9)
- They are relatively close (3)
- From which she'll engage a girl (5)
- Made an attempt at courting? (5)
- Indicate attention to exhibition dividend? (4,8)

Down

- Ordinary soldier is alive to off-duty goings-on (7,5)
- Why the stallion was hen-pecked? (3)
- It's nice to observe (6)
- Cite verse about not divulging (9)
- The rich man goes under (5)
- Urge worker on strike to give statement, for papers (5,7)
- Regal effort makes a big difference? (5)
- Having information about content of letter at present? (2,3,4)
- Given a coat by the printer (5)
- Pay attention: 50 = 10! (6)
- He is in general pharmacy (5)
- What 3 isn't (3)



Quick Clues:

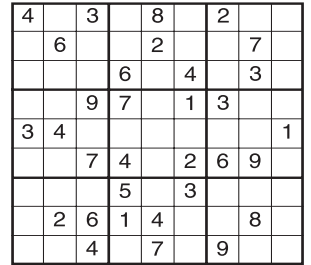
Across

- Laudable (12)
- Schedule (5)
- Criminal (5)
- Vase (3)
- Profanation (9)
- Force (6)
- Inequitable (6)
- Indecency (9)
- Sack (3)
- Steam-bath (5)
- Power (5)
- Detective (12)

Down

- Cinema (7-5)
- Cry (3)
- Sprain (6)
- Villainous (9)
- Bisect (5)
- Questioner (12)
- Taut (5)
- Set apart (9)
- Precincts (5)
- Fate (6)
- Show contempt for (5)
- Joke (3)

Sudoku



Fill in the grid below so that every column, every row and each of the 3x3 boxes contains all the digits from 1 to 9.

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS >

5	1	4	8	6	7	2	9	3
7	2	9	3	4	5	6	1	8
3	6	8	2	9	1	5	4	7
1	7	2	6	5	8	4	3	9
8	3	5	4	2	9	1	7	6
9	4	6	1	7	3	8	2	5
6	5	1	7	3	4	9	8	2
4	9	3	5	8	2	7	6	1
2	8	7	9	1	6	3	5	4

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD SOLUTIONS:
CRYPTIC - Across: 4 Advance; 8 Reeled; 9 Install; 10 Greedy; 11 Income; 12 Dividers; 18 East wind; 20 Quorum; 21 Onager; 22 Ripping; 23 Severs; 24 Redress. Down: 1 Tragedy; 2 Reserve; 3 Tended; 5 Dentists; 6 Antics; 7 Column; 13 Elements; 14 Singlet; 15 Address; 16 Purnice; 17 Proper; 19 Tender. QUICK - Across: 4 Achieve; 8 Flashy; 9 Despise; 10 Extent; 11 Nation; 12 Cerberus; 18 Dissuade; 20 Forego; 21 Divine; 22 Partner; 23 Street; 24 Memento. Down: 1 Offence; 2 Factory; 3 Chance; 5 Cleanses; 6 Impute; 7 Vision; 13 Redolent; 14 Mariner; 15 Reverts; 16 Donate; 17 Gentle; 19 Shift.

Do you organise events?

Get your event listed on all the important sites and publications including The Guardian Guide, Time Out, The List and local press.

Simple, free, and all in one place.

Visit www.listora.me/2014 to list your next event.



THE VAUXHALL SEPTEMBER CELEBRATION

12-15TH SEPTEMBER 2014



LIFETIME
WARRANTY 100,000 MILE

UP TO 5 YEARS
0% APR
REPRESENTATIVE
FLEXIBLE FINANCE*

**NO
DEPOSIT**
REQUIRED BY YOU

UP TO
£2000
VAUXHALL DEPOSIT
CONTRIBUTION**

£500
CASH GIFT*
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www.dudleymotorco.co.uk

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West Midlands
01384 454100

47 High Street
West Midlands
01384 447970

High Street
West Midlands
01384 288333

Dudley Road
West Midlands
0121 5030001



VAUXHALL

Official Government Test Environmental Data. Fuel consumption figures mpg (litres/100km) and CO₂ emissions (g/km). Vauxhall range (excl. Ampera): Urban: 12.7 (22.3) - 76.3 (3.7), Extra-urban: 23.9 (11.8) - 91.1 (3.1), Combined: 18.0 (15.7) - 85.6 (3.3). CO₂ emissions: 373 - 88g/km.*

*Available on selected models only. Conditional Sale. Finance subject to status. Terms and conditions apply. Applicants must be 18 or over. Finance supplied by Vauxhall Finance, PO Box 6666, Cardiff. CF15 7YT. **Vauxhall Deposit Contributions vary and exclude certain models. We can introduce you to a limited number of finance providers, commission may be received. †Cash Gift offer not available on Zafira (Classic) models, other terms, conditions and exclusions apply. £500 Cash Gift will be supplied via pre-paid debit card. Purchase only, cannot be used to withdraw cash. Refer to www.vauxhall.co.uk/ offers or contact your local Retailer for details. Participating Retailers only. Offers will apply to private individuals, Vauxhall Partners and small businesses 1-24. All other customers are excluded. Vauxhall Lifetime Warranty covers lifetime ownership of first registered keeper. 100,000 mile limit. Terms and Conditions apply. Offers available on new vehicle orders from 12-15 September 2014, which are registered by 30 September 2014. #Official EU-regulated test data are provided for comparison purposes and actual performance will depend on driving style, road conditions and other non-technical factors.



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PENSNETT HIGH STREET FOR SALE £149,995 Detached Property. Comprises of: Entrance Porch, Hall, Lounge, Kitchen, Conservatory, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom with separate Shower Cubicle. Benefits include: Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Rear Garden, Off Road Parking.	TIPTON NIGHTINGALE DRIVE FOR SALE £59,995 First Floor purpose built Flat. Accommodation comprises of: Entrance Hall, Lounge, Kitchen, One Bedroom, Bathroom. Offered with NO UPWARD CHAIN, benefits include: Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing and Off Road Parking.	BRIERLEY HILL NORTH STREET FOR SALE £92,500 Well Presented, Modern Ground Floor Apartment. Comprises of: Entrance Hall with Store, Spacious Lounge, Large Kitchen/Diner, Two Good Size Bedrooms, Bathroom. Benefits include: Electric Heating, Off Road Parking and Visitor Parking.	KINGSWINFORD BARNETT CLOSE FOR SALE £179,995 Semi detached home in quiet cul de sac location. Comprising of: Entrance Porch & Hall, Lounge, Dining Room, Refitted Kitchen, Three Bedrooms and a Refitted Bathroom. Benefits include: Double Glazing, Gas Central Heating, GARAGE.
RUSSELLS HALL CORBYN ROAD FOR SALE £127,500 Semi Detached Property with NO UPWARD CHAIN. Comprises of: Entrance Hall, Lounge/Diner, Kitchen, Two Double Bedrooms and a Bathroom. Benefits include: Gas Central Heating, Off Road Parking, Rear Gardens and Partial Double Glazing.	KINGSWINFORD RANGEWAYS ROAD FOR SALE £87,500 Purpose built two bedroom ground floor flat offered with NO UPWARD CHAIN has accommodation to comprise of: Lounge, Kitchen, Two Bedrooms and a Bathroom with the added benefits of Double Glazing, Off Road Parking, and GARAGE.	WILLENHALL MILL LANE £510 pcm* End Terrace Property, Lounge, Large Kitchen/Diner, Two Double Bedrooms, Bathroom, Gas Central Heating, Unfurnished, Rear Garden, Parking.	GORNAL OX STREET £625 pcm* Semi Detached House, Lounge, Kitchen/Diner, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom with shower, Off Road Parking, Gardens to Front & Rear, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing.
DUDLEY DONNINGTON COURT £470 pcm* Second floor flat, Lounge, Kitchen, One Bedroom, Bathroom, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Unfurnished, Allocated Parking.	KINGSWINFORD DUBARRY AVENUE £725 pcm* Semi Detached Property, Prime Location, Lounge, Kitchen, Dining Room, TV Room, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom with Shower, Single Garage, Off Road Parking, Rear Garden, Unfurnished.	UPPER GORNAL VICARAGE ROAD £525 pcm* Semi Detached Property, Lounge, Kitchen/Diner, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom with Shower, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Unfurnished, Front & Rear Gardens.	KINGSWINFORD LABURNUM ROAD £435 pcm* Ground Floor Flat, Lounge, Kitchen, One Bedroom, Bathroom, Off Road Parking, Double Glazing, Gas Central Heating.
STOURBRIDGE BOROUGH CRESCENT £650 pcm* Semi-Detached House, Lounge, Dining Room, Kitchen, Conservatory, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom with shower, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Front & Rear Garden, Parking for 2 cars.	STOURBRIDGE HOLLYBUSH LANE £550 pcm* First Floor Flat, Lounge, Kitchen, Two Bedrooms, Bathroom with Shower, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Rear Garden, Unfurnished.	PENSNETT MULLETT STREET £525 pcm* Semi Detached Property, Lounge, Kitchen/Diner, Two Bedrooms, Gas Central Heating, Bathroom with Shower, Off Road Parking, Front & Rear Gardens, Unfurnished.	KINGSWINFORD LARCH ROAD £395 pcm* First Floor Flat, Lounge/Diner, Kitchen, One Double Bedroom, Bathroom, Electric Heating, Unfurnished.
STOURBRIDGE BAGLEYS ROAD £395 pcm* Ground Floor Flat, Lounge, Kitchen, One Double Bedroom, Electric Heating, Double Glazing.	NETHERTON NORWICH ROAD £535 pcm* Terrace Property, Lounge, Kitchen/Diner, Bathroom, Three Bedrooms, Gas Central Heating, Unfurnished, Front & Rear Gardens, Off Road Parking.	BRIERLEY HILL CHURCH STREET £375 pcm* First Floor Flat, Lounge, Kitchen, One Bedroom, Bathroom with Shower, Double Glazing, Unfurnished, Off Road Parking.	BRIERLEY HILL HULLAND PLACE £560 pcm* Semi Detached House, Lounge, Kitchen, Downstairs WC, Two Double Bedrooms, Bathroom with shower, Parking for 2-3 Cars, Front & Rear Gardens, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazed Sealed Units.
KINGSWINFORD SYCAMORE ROAD £575 pcm* Semi Detached Property, Lounge/Diner, Kitchen, Two Double Bedrooms, Bathroom, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Front & Rear Gardens, Off Road Parking.	BROCKMOOR STATION ROAD £495 pcm* Terrace Property, Lounge, Kitchen, Rear Garden, Off Road Parking, Gas Central Heating, Unfurnished.	KINGSWINFORD HIGH STREET £320 pcm* First Floor Flat, Entrance, Lounge, Kitchen, Bedroom, Bathroom with Shower, Electric Heating.	WORDSLEY BELLS LANE £570 pcm* Semi Detached Property, Lounge, Kitchen, Shower Room, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom, Front & Rear Gardens, Gas Central Heating, Partial Double Glazing, Unfurnished.

(Administration/application fees will apply)

Main Office: Select House 120 High Street, Amblecote DY8 4DA
 60a Manor Park, Kingswinford, West Midlands DY6 8AG
www.selectsalesandlettings.com

NO LET NO FEE NO SALE NO FEE

PROPERTY

Corner location for a traditional family house



THIS three-bedroomed traditional detached house in Royal Oak Road, Halesowen, is on a corner plot

It is for sale through Dixons at £360,000. It has an entrance hall with wooden flooring, cloaks cupboard and stairs off, a lounge with French doors to the rear garden and a dining room with wooden flooring. The kitchen/breakfast room has cream unit. A sitting room has two sky lights, fitted storage furniture, a utility, WC, a master bedroom with wardrobes, two further bedrooms and a bathroom, separate WC, garage and gardens.

Call 0121 6290828 or visit www.dixonsstateagents.co.uk



Home with two lounges and a conservatory too

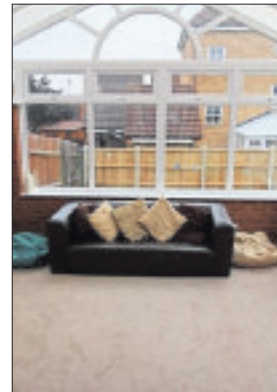
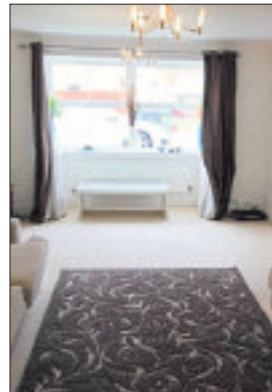


A MODERN and well-designed four-bedroomed detached family home in Great Meadow, Tipton, comes with two lounges and a spacious conservatory at the rear.

It is for sale through Skitts Estate Agents at £259,950.

Decorated throughout it has a front facing lounge with modern feature fireplace, a dining room a set of French doors, a second lounge with French doors, a kitchen with units and under stairs storage, conservatory, downstairs WC, four good sized bedrooms, en suite to master, bathroom, mainly lawned gardens, a garage and off road parking via a double width front driveway adjoining the front lawn.

For more information contact Skitts on 0121 5202255 www.skitts.net



SUMMER Auction

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chartered surveyors
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auctioneers

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24th September at
BEST WESTERN
Stone Manor Hotel,
Stone, K'minster.
Worcs. DY10 4PJ**



Middleton Road Kidderminster DY11 5EZ

Three bedroom semi-detached house requiring refitting/ refurbishment on the popular Marpool Gardens Estate. Porch. Living Room. Dining Room. Kitchen. Family Bathroom. Gas to radiator central heating. Partial double glazing. Private driveway. Good sized plot. Energy Rating TBC



**AUCTION GUIDE PRICE
£100,000 - £115,000**

Northwood Lane Bewdley DY12 1AH

A detached traditionally built bungalow standing in grounds of nearly half an acre. Private driveway. Carport. Extensive gardens and grounds with outbuildings/garaging. Porch. Hall. Two/three Bedrooms. Bathroom. Living Room. Kitchen. Laundry/Rear/Lower Porch. Cellar. Attic/Loft. Gas to radiator central heating. A fantastic opportunity to buy a property with great potential. Energy Rating E



**AUCTION GUIDE PRICE
£240,000 - £265,000**

Birchfield Road Kidderminster DY11 6PG

A very desirable, traditional red brick detached house requiring total refurbishment but being set in a good area and having brilliant scope for substantial extension or, perhaps, re-development (subject to planning permission). Reception Rooms. Kitchen. Three Bedrooms. First Floor Bathroom. Brick Built Attached Garage. Gardens. Vacant possession upon completion. Energy Rating G

OPEN VIEWING SATURDAY 13th SEPTEMBER, 2014; 2pm-4pm



**AUCTION GUIDE PRICE
£140,000 - £190,000**

Habberley Road Bewdley DY12 1JH

A classic larger type bay fronted inter war semi-detached dwelling in need of general modernisation throughout having immense potential for further improvement/enlargement. Porch. Hall. Separate Dining Room. Extended Lounge & Kitchen. Side Hall with Utility/WC off. Three Generous Bedrooms. Bathroom. Garage. Additional Garage. Fore Garden. Large Rear Garden. Energy Rating TBC



**AUCTION GUIDE PRICE
£130,000 - £150,000**

Churchill Kidderminster DY10 3LX

The rarest opportunity to purchase an end-of-terrace cottage within the village of Churchill. Gardens extending to nearly 0.4 Acre. Living Room. Dining Room. Wing extension with Rear Porch, Kitchen and Shower Room.

First Floor - Two double Bedrooms. Attached outbuildings. Detached Garage. Immense potential. Energy Rating E



**AUCTION GUIDE PRICE
£125,000 - £165,000**

Stoney Lane Kidderminster DY10 2LU

A spacious three bedroom semi-detached house requiring some refitting. Comprising - Porch. Hall. Cloakroom/w.c. Living Room. Kitchen. Conservatory. Family Bathroom. Integral Garage. Gas to radiator central heating. Private driveway. Good sized gardens. Energy Rating D



**AUCTION GUIDE PRICE
£97,500 - £110,000**

Beach Road Stourport DY13 0NA

An extremely desirable 2/3 bedroom end terrace Victorian house requiring refurbishment. The property is situated in the sought after Village of Areley Kings, just off Areley Common. Living room, dining kitchen, bathroom, 2/3 bedrooms. Good sized rear gardens. Recently installed gas central heating system, immense further potential. Vacant possession upon completion. Energy Rating D



**AUCTION GUIDE PRICE
£85,000 - £105,000**

Lea Street Kidderminster DY10 1SN

A large spacious property comprising shop & flat with immense potential. Shop/Ex-Off-Licence and Brew House comprising shop, rear room, kitchen, stores, w.c., ex-brew house building, cellarage. Flat with one bedroom, living room, kitchenette and shower room. Freehold. Flat Energy Rating F Shop Energy Rating E



**AUCTION GUIDE PRICE
£80,000 - £90,000**

Lion Hill Stourport DY13 9HG

A self contained ground floor 2-bedroom converted flat set within a Grade II Listed Building and enjoying an ultra-convenient town centre location opposite the Staffordshire/Worcestershire canal on the corner of Lion Hill and Lodge Road. lengthy 32ft reception hall, spacious bay fronted living room, fitted kitchen, 2 bedrooms, shower room, allocated parking space, electric night storage heating where specified. Energy Rating D



**AUCTION GUIDE PRICE
£50,500 - £60,000**

Church Avenue Stourport DY13 9DX

A ground floor flat having the important benefit of self contained access. The property will be of interest to both first time buyers and those seeking a home in which to retire. The property requires a degree of modernisation but has a great location being handy yet also quiet, on the fringe of Stourport town centre and also has an allocated parking space. Energy Rating D



**AUCTION GUIDE PRICE
£35,000 - £50,000**

Severn Road Stourport DY13 9HB

A second floor one bedroom flat within a block of six in this ultra convenient town centre location with communal car-parking to the front. Lounge, fitted kitchen, bedroom, bathroom, double glazing, leasehold. Ideal buy-to-let investment. Energy Rating E



**AUCTION GUIDE PRICE
£35,000 - £50,000**

St Cecilia Close Kidderminster DY10 1LW

A one bedroom apartment located on the seventh floor of this purpose built block offering spacious accommodation. Suiting owner/occupation or possible investment property.

Hall. Bathroom. Double Bedroom. Living Room. Kitchen. Energy Rating C



**AUCTION GUIDE PRICE
£25,000 - £30,000**

Land - Dark Lane Far Forest DY14 9YL

A rarely available parcel of land in the Far Forest area. Suit many current purposes. Approximate frontage of 35m and minimum approx. depth of 50m totalling 1500 sq.m. or thereabouts i.e. just under 0.4 of an acre.

Possible long term hope potential for development.



**AUCTION GUIDE PRICE
RESERVE - £20,000**

FURTHER LOTS ARE INVITED FOR OUR NEXT HIGHLY SUCCESSFUL AUCTION - DON'T MISS OUT!

31 Worcester St. Kidderminster Worcs DY10 1EQ
Tel: 01562-822244 Fax: 01562-825401
email: sales@phippsandpritchard.co.uk

1 High St. Stourport on Severn Worcs DY13 8DJ
Tel: 01299-822060 Fax: 01299-827066
email: stourport@phippsandpritchard.co.uk

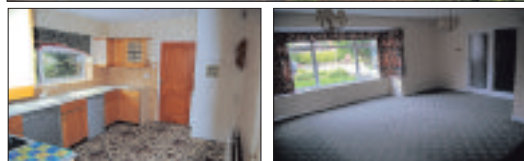
78 High St. Bridgnorth Shropshire WV16 4DS
Tel: 01746-767488 Fax: 01746-767081
email: bridgnorth@phippsandpritchard.co.uk

44 Teme St. Tenbury Wells Worcs WR15 8AA
Tel: 01584 811999 Fax: 01584 819464
email: tenbury@mccartneys.co.uk

TOWN & COUNTRY

PROPERTY SERVICES

PROPERTY OF THE WEEK



COCHRANE CLOSE PEDMORE

A Prestigious four bedroom detached property situated in a highly desirable residential location with accommodation to comprise of: Entrance hall, downstairs cloakroom, lounge/diner, kitchen, utility room, four bedrooms and bathroom. The property further boasts gas central heating, double glazing, garage, private driveway affording off road parking, carport, lawned foregarden and rear lawned garden with patio. UNFURNISHED EPC RATING = F DSS: NO CHILDREN: YES PETS: NO SMOKERS: NO
£1200PCM DEPOSIT £1300 + FEES

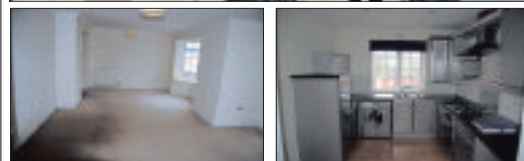


WESTFIELD ROAD QUARRY BANK

A well presented three bedroom semi detached property with accommodation to comprise of lounge/diner, kitchen, three bedrooms and bathroom. The property further benefits from gas central heating, double glazing to the rear patio and lawn with brick built store and gravelled fore garden affording off road parking.

UNFURNISHED EPC RATING = E DSS: NO CHILDREN: YES PETS: NO SMOKERS: NO

£525PCM DEPOSIT £625 + FEES



MADISON AVENUE MERRY HILL

An extremely well presented two bedroom third floor apartment situated in a popular residential location close to Merry Hill Centre, Accommodation comprises of Communal Hallway, Private Entrance, Lounge, two Bedrooms, Kitchen and Bathroom. The property further benefits from Gas Central Heating, Double glazing and Allocated Parking space UNFURNISHED EPC RATING = B

DSS: NO CHILDREN: YES PETS: NO SMOKERS: NO

£525PCM- DEPOSIT £625 + FEES

QUARRY PARK ROAD STOURBRIDGE



An impressive seven bedroom detached family home situated in a very desirable location and being close to Hagley village. The accommodation comprises of: Grand reception hall, sitting room, drawing room, dining room, breakfast kitchen, conservatory, utility, cloakroom, rear entrance hall, seven double bedrooms five of which have en suite facilities, family bathroom and a spacious first floor landing/seating area with door out to a balcony. The property further boasts paved parking for numerous vehicles, single garage with up and over garage doors and landscaped lawned gardens. UNFURNISHED EPC RATING = C DSS: NO CHILDREN: YES PETS: NO SMOKERS: NO

£3995PCM DEPOSIT £4095 + FEES



MAYNARD AVENUE NORTON

A well presented three bedroom end terrace property situated in a popular residential location, accommodation to comprise of: Reception hall, dining room, lounge, kitchen, three bedrooms and bathroom, the property further benefits from gas central heating, majority double glazing and front and rear gardens.

UNFURNISHED EPC RATING = E DSS: NO PETS: NO CHILDREN: YES SMOKERS: NO

£650 PCM DEPOSIT £750 + FEES



LANGLAND DRIVE SEDGLEY

An extremely well presented three bedroom semi detached property situated in a popular residential location. Accommodation comprises of Dining room, lounge, kitchen, three bedrooms and bathroom. The property further benefits from double glazing, central heating and garage. UNFURNISHED EPC RATING = D

DSS: NO CHILDREN: YES PETS: NO SMOKERS: NO

£595PCM DEPOSIT £695 + FEES



WATERWAYS DRIVE OLDBURY

An extremely well presented two bedroom semi detached property situated in a popular residential location with accommodation to comprise of Lounge, kitchen, 2 bedrooms and bathroom. The property further benefits from gas central heating and double glazing and enclosed rear garden and off road parking. UNFURNISHED EPC RATING = C DSS: NO CHILDREN: YES PETS: NO SMOKERS: NO

£535PCM DEPOSIT £635 + FEES



BRIARS CLOSE BRIERLEY HILL

Well presented Modern two bedroom Mid Terrace property with accommodation to comprise of: Entrance hall, lounge, kitchen, two bedrooms and bathroom. The property further boasts off road parking and enclosed rear garden. UNFURNISHED EPC RATING = E DSS: NO CHILDREN: YES PETS: NO SMOKERS: NO

£495PCM DEPOSIT £595 + FEES



CHURCH ROAD LYE

A well presented two bedroom mid terrace property in a popular residential location, accommodation comprises of Lounge, dining room, kitchen, bathroom and two bedrooms. The property further benefits from gas central heating, double glazing and rear yard. The property does not have parking. UNFURNISHED EPC RATING = F DSS: YES PETS: CATS ONLY CHILDREN: YES SMOKERS: NO

£450PCM DEPOSIT £550 + FEES

FOXDALE DRIVE BRIERLEY HILL



An extremely well presented two bedroom starter home in a popular residential location. The accommodation comprises of lounge, kitchen with appliances, two bedrooms and bathroom. The property further benefits from electric heating, lawned foregarden and communal parking. UNFURNISHED EPC RATING = TO FOLLOW DSS: NO CHILDREN: MAY CONSIDER PETS: NO SMOKERS: NO

£450PCM DEPOSIT £550 + FEES



FOXDALE DRIVE BRIERLEY HILL

A well presented and recently refurbished one bedroom semi detached house situated in a popular residential location with accommodation to comprise of: Lounge, fitted kitchen, first floor landing with built in airing cupboard, bedroom and bathroom. The property further benefits from having lawned fore garden, bin store, allocated parking, gas central heating and double glazing. VIEWING ESSENTIAL. UNFURNISHED EPC RATING = D DSS: NO CHILDREN: NO SMOKERS: NO PETS: NO

£395 PCM £495 DEPOSIT + FEES



BALLARAT WALK STOURBRIDGE

An extremely well presented one bedroom first floor apartment with accommodation to comprise Communal Entrance, private entrance hall, lounge, fitted kitchen, bathroom and bedroom. The property further benefits from double glazing, gas central heating, communal gardens and communal parking. UNFURNISHED EPC RATING = C DSS: NO CHILDREN: NO PETS: NO SMOKERS: NO

£395PCM DEPOSIT £495 + FEES



LOWER HIGH STREET STOURBRIDGE

A well presented one bedroom second floor apartment situated in the heart of Stourbridge Town Centre with accommodation to comprise of: External staircase at the rear of the property to the second floor, entrance hall, lounge/kitchen, bedroom and en-suite shower room. The property further benefits from having Gas Central Heating and Double Glazing. UNFURNISHED EPC RATING = D DSS: NO CHILDREN: NO PETS: NO SMOKERS: NO

£375PCM- DEPOSIT £475 + FEES

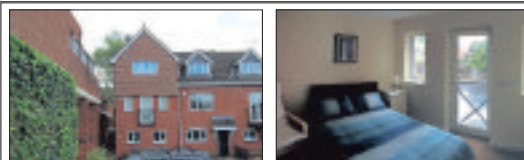
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lettings@townandcountrypropertyservices.co.uk



THE GREEN WORDSLEY

Rooms available from £90 to £115 per week situated in a popular residential location and being close to all local amenities. All inclusive rent includes gas, electricity, water bills and council tax. there is a fully equipped shared kitchen with dishwasher and washer/dryer, shower room on first floor and bathroom with shower on second floor. Also benefiting from wireless broadband and free view TV point. FURNISHED TO A HIGH STANDARD EPC RATING = C DSS: NO CHILDREN: NO PETS: NO SMOKERS: NO

£90PW DEPOSIT £420 + FEES



Isuzu on the way to town

The countdown is on for the arrival of Isuzu in Stourbridge this Friday.

The new Isuzu pick-up dealership will share the same large site as All Electric Garages' AEG Motorhomes on Birmingham Street in Stourbridge.

Final preparations are under way for the big day. Jason Pickerill is managing director of The All Electric Garages Group. He says: "I am delighted by the prospect of being able to offer one of the very best pick-ups on the market to customers across the West Midlands. The amount of interest shown by customers in the new brand's arrival in Stourbridge has been truly astounding."

Family-run All Electric Garages Group plc is adding the rapidly-expanding Isuzu franchise to its growing

portfolio of businesses that include Citroen, Hyundai and Skoda dealerships plus the Automatic Car Centre which stocks only desirable pre-owned automatic cars at competitive prices in Kidderminster. The all-makes and models budget service operation based in Stourbridge trades as My Garage while the AEG Motorhomes operation is one of the largest suppliers of motorhomes and campervans in the West Midlands.

Match

Starting from £14,749 CVOTR, Isuzu's D-Max has become a very credible force to be reckoned with in the growing UK pick-up sector. There's a model to match all requirements, you get a large loadbay and its efficient 2.5-litre turbo diesel can haul and tow hefty loads through the wildest terrain you're likely to come across.

Pulling power is the first thing you

notice about the D-Max once out on the road. The four-cylinder 2.5-litre engine choice on offer is exactly the kind of powerplant you'd want in a vehicle of this kind, with 163PS on tap and, more importantly, 400Nm of torque from just 1,400rpm. This is the kind of grunt that makes low speed urban work easy and tough muddy inclines straightforward. It's also a major reason why this vehicle can tow a braked trailer of up to 3.5-tonnes, usefully more than most rivals.

Smart, tough, affordable and well equipped, the Isuzu D-Max' sales performance has been excellent. It's an all-terrain utility vehicle that can play the lifestyle card. See the Isuzu D-Max range at All Electric Garages Isuzu on Birmingham Road, Stourbridge DY8 1JE from September 12, where you are guaranteed a warm welcome.

For further details please call 01384 85000.



Halesowen Autos

Quality Used Cars At Great Prices

<p>09/09 Mini 1.6 Cooper 66k, Silver with Black Roof, Alloys, Air Con, CD Player £6795 / £35 Per Week</p>	<p>08/08 Volkswagen Polo 1.2 E, *ONLY 28k MILES* *LOW INSURANCE* Silver, CD £4795 / £27 Per Week</p>
<p>10/10 Ford Focus 1.6 Zetec AUTOMATIC 3dr, 35k, Blue, Alloys, Air Con, CD, E/windows £6495 / £31 Per Week</p>	<p>08/08 Fiat Bravo 1.4 Dynamic 50k, Red, Alloys, Air Con, CD Player £4495 / £22 Per Week</p>
<p>08/58 Alfa Romeo MiTo 1.6 JTDM Lusso Diesel, 54k red* AVERAGE 58 MPG* Leather, Alloys, Air Con, CD £6295 / £30 Per Week</p>	<p>08/08 Ford Fiesta 1.25 Style Climate, 42k, Red, Alloys, Climate Pack £3995 / £28 Per Week</p>
<p>05/55 Mini One 1.6 (Chilli) Convertible 50k, Orange, Alloys, Air Con, Chrome Detailing, Half Leather £5795 / £33 Per Week</p>	<p>07/07 Suzuki Swift 1.3 GL one owner 47k, Burnt Orange, CD Player, E/Windows £3995 / £28 Per Week</p>
<p>09/09 Vauxhall Corsa 1.3 SXi CDTi Diesel 3dr, 52k, Grey Metallic, Alloys, Air Con £5495 / £31 Per Week</p>	<p>07/07 Peugeot 307 1.6 S Automatic, 42k, Red, Alloys, Air Con, CD £3995 / £28 Per Week</p>
<p>08/57 Vauxhall Astra 1.3 CDTi Diesel 16V Life, only 31k miles, Silver, Air Con, CD £4995 / £31 Per Week</p>	<p>06/06 Ford Fiesta 1.4 Zetec 3dr, Blue, *ONLY 39k MILES* Alloys, Climate Pack £3695 / £24 Per Week</p>
<p>09/59 Kia Rio 3 CRDi, 62k, *ONLY £30 ROAD TAX*, Silver, Alloys, Park Sensors £4995 / £31 Per Week</p>	<p>06/06 Seat Altea 1.6 Reference Sport 5dr, 52k, Grey, Alloys, Air Con, CD £3495 / £24 Per Week</p>
<p>07/07 Renault Clio 1.6 Privilege Automatic, ONLY 28k MILES*, Beige, Alloys, Air Con £4995 / £31 Per Week</p>	<p>04/54 Vauxhall Zafira 2.0 DTi Diesel 16v Elegance 7 Seater, 67k, Silver, Alloys, Air con, CD £3295 / £23 Per Week</p>
<p>08/58 Fiat Panda 1.4 100hp, 39k, *LOW INSURANCE* Black, Alloys, Air Con, CD £4995 / £31 Per Week</p>	<p>01/51 Skoda Octavia 1.8 Elegance T 4WD Estate, 94k, Silver, Alloys, Climate £1995</p>

Finance example: Vauxhall Astra 1.3 CDTi Diesel. Cash Price £4995, Deposit £300, Amount of credit £4695, Fixed interest rate 6.25% Flat rate, 12% APR, 48 Payments of £122.28 (£30.50 per week) Total amount payable £6169.44 (Excludes £150 Document fee and £150 Completion fee, Subject to status)

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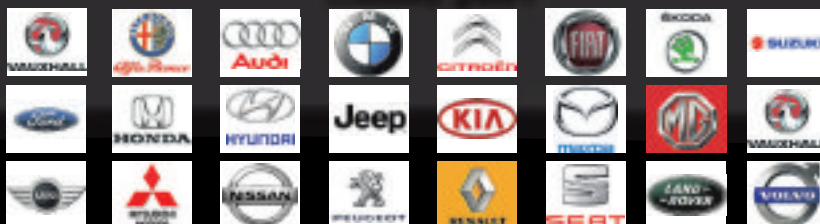
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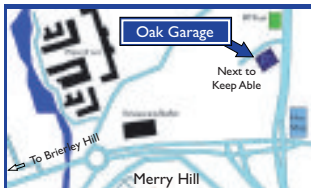
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The company has revealed that its multi-award-winning 1.0-litre Ecoboost turbocharged petrol engine now powers one in every five cars sold in Europe, totalling 120,000 vehicles from January to the end of June.

That figure is an increase from 104,000 1.0-litre Ecoboost-powered cars sold in the same period in 2013.

Within the statistics there is a clear move away from diesel in some sectors, with the B-Max showing 47 per cent of sales going to the smallest Ecoboost unit. One third (33 per cent) of Focus buyers also went for the same engine.

"Customers are clearly enjoying the benefits from a small engine that offers great fuel efficiency with no compromise to refinement or performance,"

said Barb Samardzich, chief operating officer, Ford of Europe.

"The range of models offering the 1.0-litre EcoBoost engine will rise to 11 when the all-new Mondeo is launched in the coming months, and the new 140 PS version in the Fiesta Red Edition and Black Edition shows there is even more potential."

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SPEEDY KITCHENS, APOD STREET, SWELTON, SY 4 6J

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£398
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Dan: 07807 818730

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plumbing & heating

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plumbing & heating

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plumbing & heating

woodburners and stoves
WOODBURNING / MULTIFUEL
Stoves, Flues, installation. Free
surveys. Stourbridge 01384
330183. severnvalleystoves.com

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Careful Firm
Full or Part loads
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or 07749 941319

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Full houses, Offices etc
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FREE QUOTES
We take the stress away
40 years experience
07966 281957

removals

A MAN WITH A VAN Single items,
flat/house removals/clearances,
local/nationwide. Call Steve 0121
422 2999 or 07815 043724

removals

ALAN, RAINBOW COURIERS
Parcels / Pallets, Local / Distance,
Business/Domestic. 07884 353732

removals

CALL DEAN! Business/Domestic,
Deliveries/Relocation/full house 1
item. 07423 453209 / 01902 830970
01384 940260 / 01922 263460.

removals

CALL PETE - MAN WITH A VAN.
Removals, clearances, items large
or small. Call: 01902 741546 or
07899 636852.

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woodburners and stoves
WOODBURNING / MULTIFUEL
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330183. severnvalleystoves.com

4 Pets & Animals

equestrian corner

ALL READERS are advised to check if Horses have the required Passport information.

AS NEW Set of cob harness. £275. 07761 379384.

AS NEW Breaking in Cart. For 13 to 16H. £425. 07761 379384.

AS NEW Driving Whip in good condition. £125. 07761 379384.

BLACK AND WHITE Cob Gelding, 4 years old, good to handle for the Family. £325. 07761 379384.

ENVILLE RIDE Sep 14, 10am till 1pm, Chidleys Farm, WV15 6EP. 01746 780312. 07792 276912.

RICE EVENTER Horse trailer, takes two full size horses, lightweight, front and rear loader. £255. 07761 379384.

guns & dogs

NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS Advertisers must ensure that they meet all necessary legal requirements for owning and using guns.

pets corner

GREYHOUNDS MAKE WONDERFUL PETS

All neutered, inoculated and chipped. Call Greyhound Trust 01922 412212 or www.rgtwolverhampton.co.uk

AVIARY PANELS, 6ft x 3ft, 10, £15 each. 2 with doors, £22 each. 01384 350795 or 07904 938664.

BEAUTIFUL TABBY Kittens, ready now. £30 to ensure good home. 07765 807606.

NOTICE TO READERS Please be aware that when purchasing a puppy there are some simple guidelines you can follow to ensure that you are not purchasing from a Puppy Farmer.

1. Try to ensure you visit the puppy whilst it is still with it's Mother.
2. Do not arrange to collect a puppy from any other location than that of the breeder.
3. Ensure that you are given any KC documentation, if pedigree. Whilst Midland News Association publications take great care to avoid publication of advertisements from Puppy Farmers we cannot accept any liability should readers purchase from this kind of establishment.

BORDER COLLIE PUPS. Black/white, Red/white and a tri coloured. Good with kids. Call 07721 768442.

COCKATIELS FOR SALE, babies and adults, from £25. Telephone 01902 823086.

COCKER SPANIEL puppy bitch, black, 12 wks, vac, microchipped, KC Reg. 07854 471388.

GOLDEN RETRIEVER Puppies. KC Reg. Insured. 1st Vacs. Superb temperaments. Ideal pet/gun dog, holidays honoured. 07875 331160 or 01905 333662.

KIND HOMES WANTED Shepherds. Staffies. Beagles. Boxer Cross. Border Collies. Border Collie Puppies. Also Cross breeds.

We know the history and temperament of these lovely dogs. Come and see us. 01588 676106. www.dogsamaritans.org.uk

SADIE

A special home is needed for Sadie an adorable golden curly coated little Yorkie cross.

Sadly Sadie has been traumatised by young children and needs a forever new home with someone who can give her the love she deserves.

If you feel you are that person, please call me on 01384 252158.

TORTOISE 18 month old, complete set up, 4ft vivarium, heat lamp thermostat ect. £225. Cost over £500. 07752 065437. 01384 390034.

WESTIE CROSS SCOTTIE pups. Excellent temperament. Both parents. Ready now. 01948 662784

YOUNG CANARIES £15 each, Zebra finches. £12 for 2. 01902 798969.

5 Business & Farming

business directory

accountants

ACCOUNTS, BOOK KEEPING, PAYROLL, VAT New start-ups welcome. Phone Clover on: 01384 459714 or 07715 510745.

commercial premises

Business Premises To Let

Excellent Kingswinford office space to let on a rolling short term basis. Prestigious High Street address with parking for up to three vehicles. This top floor space comprises of two rooms totalling approximately 28 square metres. Access to kitchen and lift. Existing furniture included if required. Ideal for small service business with around 1-3 employees. £150.00 + VAT per week.

Email: info@charlesdesign.co.uk

business opportunities

READERS are recommended to take appropriate professional advice before entering any obligations.

properties wanted

LOCAL INVESTOR can pay 10% more than all these guys. Call Alex 07729 297901

properties wanted

6 Property

accommodation to let

NOTICE TO READERS It is an offence under the Accommodation Agencies Act 1963, for an Agency to charge a fee simply for the registration of your requirements and/or supplying particulars of premises to let.

OFF TETTENHALL Road, 2 bed Flat CH, DG, Off road parking, £115.50 pwk. 01902 340073/07770 680636

OLDBURY/Blackheath, 2/3 bed flat / house, deposit/rent neg. 0121 5500064 or 07970 980955.

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properties wanted

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&
COOPER**

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Top Prices Paid - Guaranteed**
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ONE BED flats in Penn, fully DG, full GCH, refurbished throughout, modern kitchen / bathroom, sorry no DSS/pets. 07876 515624.

ONE BED Large fully furnished flat. With garden, Brierley Hill. DY5. No DSS. £85 p/w. 07930 508309.

ONE BEDROOM first flat flat to rent, Heiler Road, Bushbury, cooker, washing machine, fridge, freezer, shower, £450pcm. 07970 835891.

TIPTON & DUDLEY Modern 1 and 2-bed Flats, DSS OK. Call or text 07754 076795.

TWO BED Semi with loft bedroom, Penn, Wolverhampton, nice area £495pcm. 07730 565912.

**overseas
property**

NOTICE TO READERS
Readers are advised to seek independent legal advice before entering into any financial commitments.

bungalows



LLANGYNIW, MID WALES
Superb chalet bungalow.
Fully residential, 3 beds.
Fully double glazed and central heating. Lovely gardens, all round with a view over the valley.
£85,000 ono.
Telephone 01938 811194.

houses for sale



**INNAGE LANE
BRIDGNORTH**
Recently extended and totally refurbished double glazed bungalow, includes large kitchen / diner, four bedrooms one en-suite, under floor heating, radiators, detached garage. Good sized gardens. Well positioned. No chain.
£350,000 ono
07763 185826

mobile homes



LOOK
**ONE BEDROOM BRAND
NEW LUXURY PARK HOME**
On select country park in Coven.
Nice gardens, GCH, DG. Private parking on new driveway, canal walks, nice views.
Semi retired / retired only.
£74,000.
Call 07971 307903.



HOLIDAY CHALET

11 month season, 2014 site fees paid. Mid Wales near Welshpool Powys, well appointed and maintained, 2-bed Omar Park Home, GCH, DG, elevated position with fantastic views.

Beautiful site with swimming pool and fishing lake, games room and tennis court.

Offers in the region of £48,000.

Ring 07795 160773.

PARK HOME Stately Albion, 2 bed, en suite + bathroom, double unit, Shrewsbury / Oswestry, £120,000. 01691 682118. 07975 643737.

**7
Jobs**

full time - general

EXPERIENCED FULL-TIME
Vending Machine Operator required. 42.5 hours per week. Good rate of pay. Must have a full, clean driving licence. CV's to be sent to: CVS, Unit 18 Wilden Industrial Est, Stourport-on-Severn, Worcs, DY13 9JY or info@completevending.co.uk

FIELD BASED VENDING Service Technician required. Must have relevant experience and a full clean driving licence. 42.5hrs per week to include a company vehicle. Salary £20,450-£22,450 depending on experience. CV's to be sent to CVS, Unit 18 Wilden Industrial Est, Stourport-on-Severn, Worcs, DY13 9JY or info@completevending.co.uk

FULL-TIME EXPERIENCED
ADMINISTRATOR required. Must be computer literate and have a good telephone manner. Experience with Adobe design and using Social media would be an advantage. CV's to be sent to: CVS, Unit 18 Wilden Industrial Est, Stourport-on-Severn, Worcs, DY13 9JY or info@completevending.co.uk

courses

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MINIBUS (D1)
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INITIAL CPC TRAINING & ADR
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from 7hr blocks - Full 35hrs
01902 744726 / 07831 646601

**part time -
general**

NEED EXTRA CASH for Christmas?
£200-£2,000 pm - 0121 314 9652.
www.bencher.info

8

Motoring

cars under £1500

ADVERTISERS ARE REMINDED
that the Business Advertisements (Disclosure) Order of 1977 requires that advertisements must clearly differentiate between Private and Trade.

**FOR A
QUICK SALE**

**SKODA OCTAVIA
SILVERLINE**

2004, grey, 2 owners, 42k miles. Tax and MoT till Jan 2015, service history, 1.6 petrol, excellent condition.
**£1,200 ONO.
01384 829176.**

VW GOLF 1.4, 3 door, 1999, full MoT, tax February, 67,000 miles, service history, tidy car, £695. Telephone 07384 297114.

cars over £1500



CITROEN DISPATCH

2003, 29,400 miles, red, abs, air bag, air con, alarm, MoT, disabled ramp for wheelchair
**£2,750 ono.
07828186958**

**FORD FUSION 1.4 TDCI
ZETEC CLIMATE**

2006/06 reg., black, 7 months tax and MoT, 19 months warranty.
**£3,300 o.n.o.
01902 747594/07834 494633.**



**FORD STREETKA
CONVERTIBLE**

04, 62k, metallic silver, leather, 6CD, alloys, a/c, abs, electric, fsh, MoT, new clutch, central locking, pas, tax, lady owner, stunning.
**£1,550
07985 551666.**

FORD MONDEO 2.0 TDCI, 2009. Auto, silver. Tax till end of year. MoT till July 2015. FSH. Very good condition. £4,600. ono. 07734 330551

MAZDA MX5 sports convertible, 2003, MoT June 2015, beautiful condition, manual 5 speed, £1,995. 01384 873411 or 07711 688220.

MINI ONE 2005, 95000 miles, silver, 11 months MoT, 5 months tax, £2,400.00 ono. 07725 979984

PEUGEOT 206 Allure CC cabriolet, petrol, silver, 07 plate, very good condition, 53,000 miles, £3,350 ono. 01902 662027.

PEUGEOT 206, silver, a/c, e/w, radio/CD, clean, one previous owner, long MoT, £1,875 ono. 01902 426256 or 07429 999105.

PEUGEOT 207 SPORT HDI 2010, 3-dr hatchback, diesel, 1.6, 32,000 miles, tax and MoT, £6,295. 01902 862747.

ECONOMICAL

PEUGEOT 308

2008, 51,000 miles, black, abs, CD, stereo, tax, MoT, a/c.
£5,000 ono.

Telephone 07984 615774.

RENAULT CLIO Campus Sport i-Music, 1149cc, 3dr hatch, 56 plate, 66,125 miles, 12 months MoT, Tax Jan. £2,000 ono. 07340 738455.



RENAULT MEGANE

2006, 84,900 Miles, blue, abs, ew, air bag, electric mirrors, AC, alarm, MoT, metallic paint, central locking, pas, diesel, tax, Alloys, Stereo, CD, Re - Mapped

**£2,295 ono.
07846 415668**

**RENAULT MEGANE
DYNAMIQUE**

57 plate, 52K, full electric panoramic roof, 1.5 diesel, FSH, AC, tax & MoT, cheap tax, very economical.
**£3,500 ono.
07775 602525.**

MNA Media

**Eye for detail
self motivated,
enthusiastic,
confident...**

Have you got what it takes?

Sales Relationship Merchandisers

Do you have an eye for detail, are you self-motivated, enthusiastic and are able to communicate effectively and with confidence.

The Express & Star and Shropshire Star are looking for a team of sales relationship merchandisers to grow audience, strengthen the relationship with retailers, readers and ensure the brand experience is positive.

Working within a busy customer focused environment, the successful applicants will work as part of a team, in designated territories, you will be required to ensure that all our titles are available, in key strategic positions to maximise response and exposure.

Previous sales or merchandising experience in the FMCG market is desirable, but not essential. The ability to react quickly and positively to a wide variety of situations is required. A professional attitude must be displayed at all times. You must have a full current driving licence, transport will be provided.

In return we offer full training and support,

an annual salary of £15,000 pro rata, 25 days holiday per year and enrolment into the company pension scheme.

All positions are 20 hours per week worked across 5 days between Monday-Saturday, weekends and Bank Holiday working will be required on a rota basis.

If you would like to be considered for one of these roles please send your CV and covering letter to:

Personnel Department
Midland News Association
Queen Street
Wolverhampton WV1 1ES

Or by e-mail to:
personnel@expressandstar.co.uk

**Shropshire
STAR**

**CIRCULATION
REPRESENTATIVE**

The Shropshire Star is looking for a circulation representative to lead and motivate the sales teams to actively drive sales, grow audience and strengthen brand awareness.

Working in a busy customer focused environment the successful candidate will manage sales within a defined territory working closely with colleagues, retailers and supply points to maximise all business and sales opportunities. You will develop and nurture existing business relationships whilst actively seeking new sales opportunities working hard to achieve and exceed agreed KPI's.

The successful applicant will have a professional attitude, be able to demonstrate excellent customer service skills and have a real passion for driving sales. A proven track record in sales, particularly within the newspapers industry would be advantageous but is not essential as full training and support will be provided.

In return we offer a competitive annual salary, 25 days annual holiday per year and enrolment into the company pension scheme. Additionally the role comes with the benefit of a company car so a full driving licence is required.

Working Hours:
37.5 hours per week, worked across 5 days between Monday-Saturday, weekends and Bank Holiday working will be required on a rota basis

Applications including full CV by email:
personnel@expressandstar.co.uk

Postal address:
Personnel Department
Midland News Association
Queen Street
Wolverhampton
WV1 1ES

Classified Ads

ROVER 75 CDTI, Saloon, 2004, 94,500 miles, leather, all electric, tow bar, MoT and tax, good condition, £1,850 ono. 07921 507473.

TOYOTA AVENTIS 2.0 Diesel, 54 reg, metallic gold, AC, 160,000 miles, MoT till Feb. £1,550. 07817 516885.

TOYOTA VERSO SR 2009, 41,200 Miles, silver abs electric mirrors, air con long MOT central locking cruise control diesel tax 7 seats £7,250 01902 838651

VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.6, new shape, 2010, dark silver, 29,100 miles, warranty, excellent throughout. £5,250. 07771 685789

VAUXHALL CORSA CLUB, 1.4 Automatic, 58 reg, blue, 32,000 miles, long MoT, just serviced. £4,000. 01902 567630.

VAUXHALL TIGRA CONVERTIBLE 1.4 2009, heated leather seats, 20,000 miles, full spec. £5,700. Kingswinford area. 07568 590649.

EXCELLENT CONDITION

VAUXHALL ZAFIRA 1.8i ELITE SEVEN SEATER 2010, top of the range, fantastic family car, black full leather interior, heated seats, cruise control, EW, EM, Bluetooth handsfree, steering wheel mounted audio controls, parking aid, Ish, taxed February 2015, MoT May 2015. £7,290. o.n.o. 01902 701300 or 07545 769813

classic cars

CLASSIC CARS WANTED Private cash buyer Instant cash settlement. Any age, any condition. Call Market Drayton. 01630 652993.

commercial vehicles

FORD TRANSIT CONNECT 2005, 88,000 miles, blue, electric windows, air con, alarm, MoT, sensors. £2,650. 07766 202607.

VAUXHALL COMBO Isuzu diesel, taxed and MoT'd, well above average condition, new cam belt, clutch and sump, ready for work. £550 o.n.o. 01902 829438.

driving tuition

Homer's Mini, Clio, Corsa, Fiesta, Punto, 207, KA, Fiat 500, Yaris. 10 Hours £591 Five Hours £501 2 Hours £201 All Areas Covered MALE & FEMALE INSTRUCTORS MANUAL & AUTOMATIC ADVICE REQUIRED. Gift vouchers available. 07970 200066 / 01922 780250 01562 870050 / 01384 234954 01543 660120 / 0121 564 0090 01902 500605 www.homersdrivingschool.co.uk

motorbikes

ROYAL ENFIELD BULLET 500 Classic, 2009, 2,700 dry miles, as new condition, long tax and MoT, £2,500. 07944 093675.

YAMAHA DT125R O1, T & T, full engine rebuilt, powder coated frame etc. Best in West Mids. £1,745 ono. 07914 903631.

scrap vehicles

1st CHOICE TOP PRICE PAID 4 SCRAP CARS! VANS, CAMPERVANS, NOT FAILURES! ANYTHING CONSIDERED FREE COLLECTION WITHIN THE HOUR! 7 DAYS 01902 562853 07977 499516 07895 346811 - 24 hrs

A B SPARES Pays More All Scrap Cars & Vans Wanted Anything Considered Free Collection Scrap It Legally COB. Given Instant Payment. 01902 493110 / 0121 525 5813 daytime 01902 599775 evenings

MCB TOP PRICES PAID FOR ALL SCRAP CARS, VANS, BIKES, CLASSICS Tel: 01902 408176 1000's of parts available at all times MONMORE RD, WV1 2TZ

A BETTER PRICE for scrap or damaged cars and commercials. Spares for sale. **NINE LOCKS VEHICLE DISMANTLERS LTD** Brierley Hill 01384 76566 or 70553. Evenings 75397. DV5 3JZ.

ABC AUTO SALVAGE WANTED Urgent MOT Failures Best Price Paid ELV Registered Spares Always Available 0121 557 0800 or 0121 557 0400. Evening 07813 184611 Oldbury Area.

vehicles wanted

alan reed cars Used cars wanted for cash Top prices paid. HP settled. Buyer could call. 01562 711083 / 07831 245313

CROWN MOTORS Guarantee best cash price for unwanted cars/vans. Call 01902 597035 / 07903 549849.

spares & accessories

accessories & services

FREELANDER SPARE WHEEL unused, 18ins ten spoke wheel and tyre, will email photo on request. £185. 01543 490577.

clutches / brakes / gearboxes

A CLUTCH CHANGE MOBILE 30 yrs experience ALL AREAS COVERED

Call Bob 01384 251328 or 07972 169554 anytime

For Example: Citroen C1, C2, C3 Hyundai 110 Toyota Yaris Clio's & Micras Ring for quotes on others!

mobile mechanics

MOBILE MECHANICS Service & repairs. Headgasket, clutches and cambelts. 07747 645469.

9 Local Information

public & legal notices

LEGAL / PUBLIC NOTICES For convenience if you may fax any advertising requirements to Marie Hogg on 01902 713146 or email marie.hogg@expressandstar.co.uk (remember to include a name/contact number for confirmation of receipt)

KEROLIA MARY DENKAL (deceased) Pursuant to the Trustee Act 1925 any persons having a claim against or an interest in the Estate of the aforementioned deceased, late of 4 Kingfisher Drive Wollaston, Stourbridge, West Midlands DY8 3LD, who died on 14/07/2014, are required to send particulars thereof in writing to the undersigned Solicitors on or before 12/11/2014, after which date the Estate will be distributed having regard only to claims and interests of which they have had notice. **WALL JAMES CHAPPELL** 15-23 Hagley Road Stourbridge West Midlands DY8 1QW 7418726

Staffordshire County Council

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 (AS AMENDED)
ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION (SPECIAL EVENTS) ACT 1994
WALK FOR DREAMS - CHARITY WALK
BEGGARS BUSH LANE, WOMBOURNE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Staffordshire County Council made an Order on the 11 September 2014 the effect of which will be to prohibit any vehicle from proceeding along the following length of road:
Beggars Bush Lane, Wombourne – between its junction with A449 Stourbridge Lane and Syth Lane

unless the vehicle is being used in connection with the event; or being used for police, fire brigade or ambulance purposes.

The restrictions are necessary to support the police operation in maintaining the safety of all road users along the route of the 'Walk for Dreams Charity Walk' event including competitors and team support. The restrictions will be in place from approximately 10am until the end of the race which is anticipated to be 1pm.

The preferred alternative route for traffic will be available via A449 Stourbridge Road, Gilbert Lane, High Street, Gravel Hill and Greenhill.

The Order will not, at any time, prevent access of pedestrians to premises situated on or adjacent to any road to which the order relates, or to any premises only accessible to pedestrians from such a road.

The Order will come into operation on the 21 September 2014 and will remain in force until the Walk for Dreams Charity Walk is completed.

The event is being held by Promise Dreams, Edwin House, Boundary Industrial Estate, Stafford Road, Wolverhampton, WV10 7EL.

A Map showing all of the roads involved may be inspected during normal working hours at the office of the Deputy Chief Executive & Director for Place, Highways, 1 Staffordshire Place, Tipping Street, Stafford, ST16 2LP and can be viewed at <http://roadworks.org>

John Tradewell, Director of Law and Democracy
1 Staffordshire Place, Tipping Street, Stafford, ST16 2LP
Enquiries: Customer Contact Centre Tel: 0300 111 8000
Date: 12 September 2014

10 Personals

WALSALL LADIES FC URGENTLY REQUIRE Under 10's girls Football players. Please contact Donna 07972 731572.

personal

BLACK COUNTRY LADY Young 64, attractive, down to earth, easy going, with a GSOH, driver, WLTM similar gent who is kind, with a GSOH and likes dogs. Brierley Hill and surrounding areas. **Box Number P19447, Express and Star, Queen Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.**

BRITISH CARIBBEAN GUY 43 Professional, attractive, slim, well groomed, none smoker, enjoys travel, keep fit, cinema, wineing and dining, theatre and concerts. Seeking genuine female 25-43 for no strings attached regular fun times maybe more. **Box Number P19442, Express and Star, Queen Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.**

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general

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NATALIE 22yrs attractive brunette nurse, very slim, athletic figure, many likes, few dislikes, WLTM male up to 38yrs to stay at home and have some fun with. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 413839**

SALLY, 36yrs, married but husband works away seeks discreet gent any age for fun only. **Text only Box: 4492484**

MAZ 36 petite curvy big blue eyes, loves music, beach walks, cosy nights with good conversation and nice wine, seeks similar likeminded male. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 413571**

ANNA, busty mature lady seeks no strings discreet meetings with male any age or location. **Tel No: 0905 002 1956 Box No: 366019**

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ANITA seeking nice man in the West Midlands, 50-70 for companionship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 413765**

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GENT widower, late 60's, looks younger, GSOH, likes music, good food, country pursuits, seeks female, 50-60 for friendship/relationship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 413733**

JEFF young 62, N/S, tall, fit, energetic, seeking new female. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 413053**

BLACK guy 68, feels 45, looks 40, seeks female, 58-71, GSOH, genuine, caring for fun times and LTR. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 413375**

TALL Indian gent, 53, seeks sensual lady for friendship plus, interesting chap, discreet days in and nights out. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 413315**

JOHN 70, tall, slim, seeking female for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 413183**

TONY young looking 50's male, 5ft 8ins, many interests, easy going, seeks slim lady chick or similar for relationship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 413275**

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Sykes is looking to regain the title

STOURBRIDGE'S Richard Sykes will finish his British Rally Championship (BRC) Challenge season later this week when he contests Rally Isle of Man in his Bathams Brewery and G I Sykes Ltd-backed Citroën C2 R200 with co-driver Emma Morrison.

Sykes will be trying to win back the championship he won in 2012, having finished as the runner-up last year.

He holds a four point lead in the title race but with the Manx event counting as two separate rounds, with extra points available for the last round, the championship is still all to play for.

"It's difficult to know how to play it," said Sykes. "Do we go steady and aim to survive the 75 miles of stages in the first round, thereby making sure we take part in the second or do we go flat out from the start and aim to win them both.

One thing is for sure and that is that two finishes are more important than the wins as, the way the points are, I really have to score on both rounds. It's been four years since I competed on the Isle of Man so I'm really looking forward to it." The rally starts on Thursday.

Stour lose in 500-run match-up

**Stourbridge 2nd XI 253
Stratford Upon Avon 257.
Stratford win**

MORE than 500 runs were scored and 15 wickets fell between the two sides in a close encounter at the Memorial Ground.

Stand-in skipper Feraz Irfan decided to bowl first and saw opposition top the double 100.

Opener Alex Marney gave Stour bowlers the run around scoring 93. He was supported by the top order Charlie Blake (29), Will Noble (39) and the lower order Richard Sykes (28), and LainLythall (23). The first wicket stand of 114 was broken by Abigail Houghton. She went on to get the best figures of the season taking 4-32 off 6.

Life is tough in new division for chess club

THE newly-promoted Wolverhampton league team made the trip to Mercia for their first game in Division 2.

All six games proceeded on an even keel for an hour or so with no sign of any advantage to either side. First to finish were boards four and six whereTony Shaw and Paul Sharratt both drew.

Things improved, however, when board five's Dave Scriven began to put some pressure on Barry Smith's position. He went a pawn up, then gradually manoeuvred Barry into an uncomfortable situation which allowed a knight fork on a rook and an unprotected bishop, forcing Barry to give up

Chess

the exchange. More forceful play followed, until Barry, facing the loss of another piece, decided to admit a 2-1defeat.

Eric Horwill meantime launched an attack and with a strong combination capture the queen and a key pawn exchange for rook and knight.

They played on for a while, but Ken could not find sufficient counter play, and eventually lost on time as he struggled to break Eric's hold on the game. 3-1. John Foxall

accepted a draw on board two to give up the match.

The first Wednesday of the season was buzzing at Stourbridge with two matches over 12 boards.

There were also some others playing friendlies. The club entertained West Bromwich in the Pittaway Cup while in the Wolverhampton league the Div 4 team hosted new boys Birmingham.

West Bromwich arrived with a full team of eight. Stourbridge were missing Keith Arkell so Jeremy Fallowfield would be up against it on board one facing a very strong player. First to finish was Dave Scriven on

board seven followed by Nic Fallowfield on board three both of whom drew,

On board six Julie Wilson was forced to concede against a big attack, to leave Stourbridge trailing 2-1 and with no clear wins on the other boards to bring us back into the match.

Greg Dyett and Nick Arkell finished at a similar time, with Nick losing and Greg winning. Steve Jukes levelled things.

Jeremy Fallowfield lost and Stourbridge were out the cup.

Tony agreed a draw so the final score was 4.5-3.5 to West Bromwich. The club also lost 3-1 to Birmingham.

Stour have promotion back in their sights

**Whitchurch 1st XI 114 Stourbridge 207
Stourbridge win**

STOURBRIDGE 1st XI were back in contention for the promotion to Division one of the Birmingham and District Premier league.

They beat Whitchurch banking 20 points. Stour at one stage four down for 42 recovered unlike their escapades against Eastnor last week losing by seven wickets.

Stand-in skipper Alex Bingham lost the toss for the second time and saw his top order collapse.

His opening partner Steve Game was out playing on in the first over for a duck to Mohammed Ishtiaq. Bingham himself was also bowled by the same bowler for 2, and the new number three Ryan Willets was caught behind for 4 off Zafran Ali.

Stour's plight worsened losing Matt Bradley for 13 and Jitesh Jivan Patel for a duck both falling to the bowling of Ishtiaq. Stour were deep in trouble once again at the half way stage 71-5 off 25 overs. Audy Alexander (34) and Bilal Hassan (14) were not out.

Whitchurch failed to make a further breakthrough until the visitor's score had reached 154.

Alexander was the first to go, caught for 72 off Ijaz Yousaf made from nine fours and 73 balls.

Forty two runs later Hassan perished caught off Simon Dimelow eight short of his maiden hundred for Stourbridge.

Showing his best form of the season Hassan's runs came off 104 balls nine fours and two sixes.

Archery girls are on target as championship



Right on the mark – archers Freya Palmer, left, and Lauren Turner

TWO young archers grabbed a brace of wins and a second place between them in the Dorset and Wiltshire Archery Association championships.

Freya Palmer and Lauren Turner, both members of the Wyre Forest Company of Archers, shone in the event at Devizes.

Eleven-year-old Turner, a former

pupil of Burlish Park Primary now at Stourport High School, won the under-12 junior ladies re-curve event with 1,135 points.

She scored 143 hits, missing only once, and racking up 79 golds.

Clubmate Palmer, a pupil at Ridgewood High School, Stourbridge, placed second in the same event with

a total of 1,121 points from 141 hits which included 80 golds.

The previous day she had won the under-12 junior recurve two-way double clout, shooting from 80 yards. She had 56 points, including 25 hits and three clouts.

For details on the club, visit www.wfca.org.uk

Golfer holes it in one at contest

A Wordsley golfer scored a hole-in-one during a recent club competition.

Ian Brooks, aged 38, scored his ace on the 203-yard, par-three 12th at Stourbridge GC, and the nine-handicapper.

He said: "I hit a 20-degree rescue from the tee that pitched about eight feet short of the flagstick and rolled straight in.

"It was a mixture of elation and panic: elation because I had hit my first hole-in-one, panic because the club was full and there was also a function going on that evening – the ace could have ended up costing £500!"

The luxury German watch maker Boss has once again pledged to reward club golfers with an exclusive watch for every hole-in-one recorded during a club competition in 2014 after giving away £600,000 of limited-edition mementoes in 2013 – and Brooks is among the latest to achieve the feat this year.

The scheme is open to any golfer whose club uses HowDidiDo – a free-to-use, web-based social network for golfers – and anybody playing in official club competitions is eligible.

Currently, more than 1,800 clubs use the web-site.

Tipton to go on in Vase run

TIPTON 2 Hinckley 1

A young Tipton Town side progressed to the next round of the FA Vase.

Tipton took the lead in only the eighth minute through Jordan Harrison.

And Hinckley were coming more and more into the play until the 29th minute when home skipper John Haynes's corner beat defenders on the line to creep into the corner of the net for 2-0.

Visiting skipper, Luke Richards went close to pegging the home side back in the 35th minute, driving inches wide of the home goal but six minutes before the break, Hinckley punished some untidy Tipton defending to pull a goal back through Mark Bellingham.



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Thirds win the season opener

DUDLEY Kingswinford rugby's third team won their season opening fixture over Chaddesley Corbett's first team 39-7 in the first round of the North Midlands cup.

Behind at half time 7-5, DK showed a lot of spirit and energy to eventually run out winners.

After 15 minutes, DK began to find holes in the Chaddesley Corbett defence and it was DK's turn to exert pressure but after 30 minutes with the score still 0-0 a long kick out of defence saw DK's full back spill the ball, which was collected by the chasing Chaddesley players who ran through unopposed to score.

DK responded immediately and after sustained pressure on the Chaddesley line a break down the blind side saw young Reece Davis score in the corner. The second half showed the superior fitness of DK tell with them dominating the lineout.

Some well executed moves and fine individual performances saw the score board ticking over throughout the second half.

DK's backs scored five of the six tries, with Joey Kennedy at fly half and Young Brown at fullback/scrum half impressive. DK are at home against Church Stretton this weekend.

James' double delights Wulfs

AFK Wulfrunians 3 Black Country Rangers 1
AFK Wulfrunians progressed to the second qualifying round of the FA Vase after a 3-1 victory over Black Country Rangers at Castlecroft Stadium.

James Skedgel nipped in to divert the opener past the Rangers keeper shortly before half time.

Skedgel latched on to a Craig Gregg flick on before crashing a shot past Booth to extend Wulfs' lead.

Rangers, to their credit, refused to roll over and pulled a goal back within three minutes when substitute Nicky Turton produced an excellent lob over the keeper from just outside the area.

Wulfs had their own supersub, however, as they increased their lead in the 75th minute as Jamie King volleyed a right-footed shot past the keeper.

Lions get off to roaring start in cup race

Stourbridge Lions 23 Old Salts 15
STOURBRIDGE kicked off their cup campaign against fellow Midlands Two North (West) club Old Saltians at Stourton Park.

Both clubs are in the same league this year due to a league restructure, so this game represented a very intriguing taster for the league fixture in a few weeks.

Stourbridge started the stronger, dominating possession and territory for the first 10 minutes and the pressure got the better of Old Salts causing them to give away a penalty in easy reach for Sam Wilson's first points of the afternoon. The Lions main-

Rugby

tained their dominance causing frustration for the Old Salts forwards.

Sam Wilson then saw an opportunity created by having the extra man and sent a cross field kick over the try line for Aaron Boffey to claim and score in the right hand corner to make the score 8-0 to the Lions, Sam Wilson converted.

Old Salts then had their first real taste of possession and moved up the pitch well showing their strength with ball in hand.

Eventually the Lions defence had a momentary lapse and Old Salts was able to fall over the line in the corner, the conversion was missed.

Conceding the try gave the Lions the boost they needed to get a grip back on the game.

With the best forward and back linking play the Lions had shown in the game so far, they made their way deep into Old Salts territory creating an opportunity for Lions returnee Tom Noot to pick and go around the side of a ruck to crash over the Lions second try, again the conversion was suc-

cessful. The second half got under way and the Lions were under pressure again which eventually led to conceding a second try.

However, they bounced back quickly and following strong set pieces were able to pass the ball out to Duncan Chance on the left wing enabling him to r score.

Old Salts scored another unconverted try before Sam Wilson slotted in a penalty five minutes from time. Head Coach Jon Tibbetts will be keen to cut down on the penalties the Lions gave away ready for next week's clash at home in their league opener against Ludlow.

Gareth backing Saido

ENGLAND Under-21s boss Gareth Southgate has paid tribute to Albion star Saido Berahino for battling back from his nightmare end to last season.

Berahino, who has made a bright start to the Baggies' new Premier League campaign.

And the former Villa defender is impressed with the striker's new focus after a positive start to last season gave way to controversy amid a dressing-room bust-up and a national newspaper story exposed him inhaling nitrous oxide.

"The great thing with Saido is if he has had a little dip he is someone that recognises and acknowledges it and then does something about it," said Southgate.

"They are young kids. If everything we did as 18-19-year-olds was as exposed as these lads are then I'm not sure I'd be sitting here today.

"But the spotlight is different now. No one was really bothered what we did.

"They are going to make mistakes.

"I have to say Saido is one who works really hard, he wants to stay out and do extra finishing."

FIFA ready to trial TV replays

A TV replay system - allowing football coaches to challenge a referee's decision - may be trialled next year, FIFA president Sepp Blatter has promised.

The 78-year-old said he wanted coaches to be allowed at least one challenge per half. The trial could happen at next year's FIFA Under-20 World Cup.

STOUR GET FIRST WIN UNDER BELT

Harrogate 11 Stourbridge 17
STOURBRIDGE kicked off their National 2 North campaign with an away victory at Harrogate's Claro Road ground.

However, it was a stuttering performance in poor conditions which secured neither a try bonus point nor plaudits from their travelling supporters.

Stour had to fall back on dominance up front to set up attacking platforms that delivered two tries from short-range scrums.

Debutant fly half Gareth Bown slotted in an early penalty, but Stour's running lines were often too lateral to make much impact on the hosts' well-structured drift defence and they had to play phase after phase to advance slowly.

Strayed

They eventually worked some space for winger Stef Cooksammy, though he was brought down just short, the defenders had strayed offside and captain Nigel Mukaratiro opted to scrum, from which Chris Depper crashed over.

A neat linebreak by Harrogate's fly half Callum Irvine was only halted by a last-ditch Cooksammy tackle, but a defender strayed offside in the lead-up giving Irvine a straightforward penalty kick at goal.

A Stour counter attack was halted when Bown hung on to the ball in the tackle and the referee then added 10m as Stour failed to retreat immediately.

This brought it into kick-

Rugby

ing range and Irvine duly landed his second kick at goal.

Another tackle area indiscretion by Harrogate drew a warning from Mr Dickens and a penalty that set up a late first half assault on the hosts' line.

A turnover saw a Stour attack stall in the hosts' midfield, with the defence out of position Irvine made big distance before putting a grubber kick deep into the Stour 22.

Jarvis gathered it but the hosts got enough bodies to the ruck to drive the defenders off and sub Noel Minkin was just able to evade Cooksammy's tackle to score. Coach Jon Higgins replaced Bown at outside half and fired a long punt into the in-goal that would have produced a try had Cooksammy managed to hold on to it in the air.

At the hosts upped the tempo and took a quick throw-in but the Stour defenders managed to flood the tackle area to win a penalty. Higgins' kick at goal drifted wide, it was hoofed downfield to the covering Harper.



The Stourbridge pack are caught in the thick of the action during the match against Harrogate

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